



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

The Play-by-Play For Noe Valley Candidates Night

By Mariva H. Aviram

Instead of watching the Giants play baseball on the chilly evening of Oct. 9, some 60 to 70 residents sat on folding chairs in the Alvarado School cafeteria and watched a crowd of candidates battle over who should fill Mark Leno's slot on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. (Leno bowed out of the race in order to run for State Assembly from District 13.)

All six contenders for District 8 supervisor—Bevan Dufty, James Green, Eileen Hansen, Shawn O'Hearn, Tom Radulovich, and Starchild—spoke and fielded questions at the Noe Valley Candidates and Issues Night, sponsored by Friends of Noe Valley and four other neighborhood groups.

In addition, the audience got a chance to hear the pros and cons of four controversial propositions on the Nov. 5 ballot.

"It was one of the livelier and more agreeable evenings that District 8 has seen," said Friends President Jeannene Przyblyski, who moderated the event. "Seeing the supervisorial candidates up close and personal is one of the direct benefits of district elections."

The night started out with short pres-



All six candidates for supervisor in District 8 put on a happy face for an October forum at Alvarado School. They are, from left to right: Bevan Dufty, Shawn O'Hearn, James Green, Tom Radulovich, Eileen Hansen, and Starchild.

Photo by Eric Wagner

entations from each of the candidates for supervisor. Here's a recap of the action, from A to Z.

Candidate Bevan Dufty, who directed the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services from 1996 to 2001, said his background in city government has helped him understand "how the city works, or doesn't work." He also feels he has the knowledge, experience, energy, and passion to be an effective leader in District 8, and that he'll "bring departments to-

gether and improve neighborhoods on a block-by-block basis." He plans to work with public schools, because "we don't want a second-class public education system." He's also "bullish" on the Care Not Cash initiative (Prop. N), because he feels strongly that "changing the city's approach to homelessness is the key issue facing San Francisco." (bevanduffty.com)

James Green's black tie with red fire

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'ROC' Arrested

Police Charge 24th Street Tagger With 11 Counts of Vandalism

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

After almost four months of eluding police, "ROC," a graffiti vandal who has been accused of going on a tagging rampage along 24th Street, was arrested in early October. The 17-year-old was charged by the San Francisco Police Department with 11 felony counts of vandalism using caustic chemicals, and three misdemeanors related to possession of vandalism tools.

According to Officer Christopher Putz, of the Police Department's Graffiti Abatement Program, ROC is currently in juvenile detention awaiting a court date on the charges—10 of which are linked to the thousands of dollars in damage he allegedly caused to store windows on the south side of 24th Street between Castro and Church in the early morning hours of June 19.

In that tagging spree, ROC, who has a history of graffiti vandalism including one previous attack on 24th Street, used a highly destructive form of graffiti called acid-etching to mar the windows of close to a dozen shops. Among those with lasting scars were Cotton Basics, Noe Valley

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Getting a Charge Out of Electric Bikes

Noe Valley Entrepreneur Wants You to Give His Model a Spin

By Erin O'Briant

Imagine you are riding your bike in Noe Valley. As you head up the steep part of 24th Street—or up any of the intimidating inclines in our 'hood—you brace yourself to pump those pedals as hard as you can. But as you start to take that huge hill, your bike magically begins propelling you along. You sail right up the slope as though it were as flat as Valencia Street. That's because you're on an electric bike.



Steve Roseman says his electric bike will give you just the boost you need to make it up Noe Valley's steep hills. Photo by Pamela Gerard

Noe Valley resident Steve Roseman is the owner of the Electric Bike Network, a three-month-old business he runs out of his 24th Street home. It's a company all right, says Roseman, but for him it's also a quest. The environmentalist and biking activist hopes that by convincing locals that electric bikes are a good alternative to cars, he'll promote more cycling and less pollution.

Most people don't ride bicycles in San Francisco, he says, because of the hills and the traffic. "I'm trying to take the excuses away," Roseman explains. "For most people in neighborhoods like Noe Valley, one block off the busy streets, there is very little traffic. The electric bike makes the hills disappear, and you can get on streets with little or no traffic."

Twenty-fourth Street shoppers may already have seen the battery-powered L.A. Free bikes Roseman promotes. They've been on display recently at Tuggey's Hardware, See Jane Run, and Cover to Cover Booksellers. They're also available for sale or test-ride at Noe Valley Cyclery.

Part of Roseman's business strategy is to partner with organizations that fit with his vision. Anyone who tries out the electric bikes at Noe Valley Cyclery, at 24th and Diamond, gets a free ice cream cone at Isabella's Dessert Café at 24th and Castro. (Ice cream makes people smile, says Roseman, and so does riding a bike.) Buy one of his bikes, and you'll get free membership in the San Francisco Bike Coalition, as well as perks at the nonprofit City CarShare. Plus, a third of any after-tax profits will go to organizations working



Tropical Island Pet Shop owner Steve Tang has had more time to play with his chameleons lately, but he'll be happy to say goodbye to the city's current economic recession. Photo by Pamela Gerard

Surviving the Bust:

Local Merchants Await Holiday Shopping Season

By Mariva H. Aviram

Dozens of live crickets jumped up and down in the inflated plastic bag, like confused toddlers bouncing inside the medieval-castle ride at the St. Philip's Carnival. "Yes, that's all I need today," a heavily pierced gentleman, shouldering a sleek white parrot with pale blue eyes, said about the crickets—fresh food for a reptilian pet at home. Steve Tang rang up the \$2 order and sent the customer, his parrot, and the crickets on their way. Then he went back to cleaning the fish tanks.

Tang is the owner of Tropical Island

Pet Shop, on 24th near Diamond, which sells fish and reptiles, as well as pet equipment and supplies. During the '90s economic boom, Tang had many regular customers, and even a few big spenders. One customer, "Bob," spent \$1,000 to \$2,000 per month, which translated to solid profits for Tang.

But in the past two years, especially since Sept. 11, Tang has watched anxiously as sales dwindled. He has seen a number of his customers lose their jobs and consequently their ability to patronize his pet shop—including Bob, who moved to Lake Tahoe to escape San Francisco's sky-high housing costs.

Tang has tried advertising promotions, such as in the *S.F. Weekly* and the monthly

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Praise the Bounty and Pass the Pie. This storefront display at Willa on Church Street reminds us that the season has shifted. A profusion of pumpkins color Noe Valley. The air is markedly chilly and the skies are gray after the warmth and sun of early October. It's harvest time, and baking and sharing are soon to follow. Photo by Pamela Gerard



Eileen Hansen for Supervisor – District 8

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- ✓ To develop child-friendly, dog-friendly and park-friendly policies
- ✓ To provide for the health care concerns of San Franciscans
 - ✓ To address our needs for affordable rental and home ownership opportunities

Eileen helped our neighborhood fight the Residential Builders Association. I believe she will continue to stand up to special interests and fight for what's right. We need a strong, independent voice for our neighborhood and our city.

– Vicki Rosen, President, Upper Noe Neighbors

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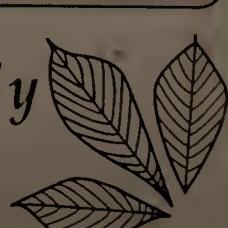
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Edward Jones Analysts Named “Best on the Street” by the *Wall Street Journal*

Three Edward Jones research analysts were recognized as master stock pickers by the *Wall Street Journal* in its annual “Best on the Street Analysts Survey,” according to Kathy Zucchi, the Noe Valley investment representative for the financial services firm.

The *Wall Street Journal* recognized Brian Youngberg in utilities, Art Russell in computers, and Mel Martin in telecommunications as master stock pickers. Their top ranking was determined solely on the performance of their recommendations during 2001, where all three analysts outperformed 95 percent to 100 percent of their industry peers.

The Edward Jones analysts were selected from more than 4,000 analysts at more than 200 firms. Of that number, 1,378 analysts “met the survey’s eligibility tests and qualified to have their research analyzed in detail,” according to the *Journal*.

Youngberg, selected as the top stock picker for the utilities sector, was recognized for being “among the earliest last fall to advise investors to sell their shares of troubled Enron Corp.,” according to the *Journal*. He issued a sell recommendation on Enron after the market closed on Nov. 20, 2001.

“Their performance is no fluke. During one of the most dangerous times in the market in recent memory, Brian, Mel, and Art avoided some of the riskiest stocks in their respective sectors,” said Alan Skrainka, Edward Jones’ chief market strategist.

Edward Jones analysts are asked to identify industry leaders, great companies at a small price within their respective industries, to follow.

“We also ask them to help us manage risk for our customers,” Zucchi said.

Edward Jones, the only major financial services firm advising individual investors exclusively, traces its roots to 1871 and currently serves nearly six million clients. The firm offers its clients a variety of investments, including certificates of deposit, taxable and non-taxable bonds, stocks, and mutual funds.

Kathy Zucchi’s office is located at 816 Diamond Street. The Edward Jones interactive web site is located at www.edwardjones.com.

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LETTERS 37¢

Loss of a Valued Memorial

Editor:

In early October, I was heartbroken to witness the last bit of destruction of the wonderful sidewalk memorial park in front of a house on Sanchez near Cesar Chavez, which was at one time the home of a tilemaker named Sonda.

The park consisted of a tiled retaining wall between the house's front yard and the sidewalk, tiled stairs into the yard, a large wooden bench supported by mosaic-covered uprights, and the sidewalk itself. A tiled inscription read, "I, Sonda, dedicate this park for the enjoyment of the community in loving memory of my daughter Linda, a crippled child.—Sonda, 1978."

The retaining wall tiles depicted angel-like figures and princesses in tall conical hats and flowing dresses. The steps were covered in tiles with swirling designs. Handmade mosaics covered all four sides of the bench's support columns and showed birds preening or pulling worms out of the ground.

The main bench completely surrounded two large trees, one of which has now had all its branches sawn off. Another bench, this one of cast iron, sat on the other side of the park, along with several cast-iron enclosures that once contained small trees. The sidewalk itself was painted brown and green, with painted stepping stones crossing it. The effect was of walking through an utterly magical woods.

We are often reminded of the failings of our species. But every time I walked through that beloved little park, I thought only of the best we humans have to offer: love, caring, generosity, imagination. I don't want to demonize the people who were responsible for what happened. For whatever reason, they were unable to re-

spond to the extraordinary warmth, charm, and meaning of that bit of sidewalk.

I urge anyone who has photos of the park to send labeled copies to the Noe Valley Historical Archives, Attention: Roberta Greifer, Branch Manager, Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey Street, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Anne Connell Wilson
28th Street

Wash Your Face, 24th Street

Editor:

This is an open letter to the merchants of Noe Valley.

With one or two exceptions, the merchants along the 24th Street corridor, from Diamond Street to Chattanooga Street, have failed to realize that it is their responsibility (and it is also good business sense) to keep a clean storefront.

I have lived in Noe Valley for nearly 20 years, daily frequenting the shops and markets of 24th Street, and never, since the intrusion of newly "affluent" youth and the influx of panhandlers, have I seen 24th Street look so filthy. Let's clean it up!

David

Last name withheld by request



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Police Arrest 24th Street Tagger 'ROC'

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Bakery, Panetti's Gifts, Astrid's Rabat Shoes, the French Tulip, Designer's Club, Tuggee's Hardware, and the 24th Street Cheese Company.

Cheese Company manager Nancy Ford expressed relief when she learned of ROC's arrest. "I'm glad he got caught, but I had no doubt the police would catch him eventually," she said. "I just hope that this time they do something to stop him from doing it again."

Even though plainclothes officers from both the Mission and Ingleside police districts had been actively looking for him, ironically it was two Richmond Station patrol officers who arrested ROC in the early morning hours of Oct. 6, on charges completely unrelated to graffiti vandalism.

A little after midnight, while cruising in their squad car, the officers spotted three young men in a golf cart with a flat tire, driving along Vicente Street near 41st Avenue. When the police stopped and questioned the youths, one, a 16-year-old, admitted he had "hot-wired" a cart taken from the Lincoln Golf Course near the Legion of Honor, and then driven to a party at a house on 29th Avenue where he had picked up two friends. The three then went on a joyride through the Richmond District, crashing into several large trees along the way.

The 16-year-old who "hot-wired" the cart was cited for theft of a vehicle and released to the custody of his mother, pending a court date. Another 16-year-old was detained but not charged. The third man, who had been driving the cart, told police that he was 18 years old. He was charged with theft of a vehicle and possession of stolen goods and booked into jail at Richmond Station.

Following a fingerprint check, however, police determined that the man in custody had provided them with a false name and birth date and that he was in fact the juvenile known as "ROC," with a warrant out for his arrest. ROC was then transported to the Youth Guidance Center, where he is now being held while his case is reviewed by the District Attorney's Office.

Meanwhile, back on 24th Street, some storefronts still bear the "ROC" moniker that was etched in white capital letters using hydrofluoric-acid cream this past June. And merchants like Kay Lamming of Cotton Basics are still debating whether to replace their windows. (Un-

like spray-paint graffiti, which can be painted over or scrubbed off, acid-paint graffiti eats through glass. Shopkeepers are often left with no other choice but to replace the graffitied window.)

"It's just too expensive for us to replace the window," said Lamming, who has received an estimate of \$1,500. "I don't want to replace it and then have somebody turn around and do graffiti like this again."

Although she is discouraged by what ROC did to her storefront, Lamming has mixed feelings about his arrest.

"What he has done is irritating and destructive," she said, "but I hate to hear of a kid getting stuck in the criminal justice system. I'm all in favor of him providing restitution for the damage he's done, but I don't know how he'd do that if he was put in jail."

Still, Lamming wants ROC to understand how his actions affect others. "I would like him to know what it means when he destroys property—that there are economic consequences. If he at least was made to make money to pay the merchants back for the damage, he would get some education about what it's like in the real world."

According to Officer Putz, there is a good chance that ROC will both serve time in a juvenile facility and be forced to pay back the merchants he's harmed. "I feel strongly that ROC should make restitution to his victims," said Putz.

Putz added that word of ROC's arrest had spread quickly among other graffiti offenders and they are beginning to realize that 24th Street is off limits.

"These kids have a network," said Putz. "They actively talk and gossip, and they know that the merchants on 24th Street banded together [last June] to file police reports about the vandalism and that that got me really focusing on ROC. ROC's arrest has sent a strong message to them: merchants on 24th Street are not going to tolerate any kind of graffiti or vandalism in their neighborhood." □

As we were going to press, the Voice learned that at an Oct. 22 hearing, the 17-year-old known as "ROC" pled guilty to two felony counts and two misdemeanor counts of vandalism. He also agreed to pay restitution to all the Noe Valley merchants whose storefronts he had damaged. His sentencing hearing is scheduled for Nov. 5.



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LETTERS

A Typical Fan Letter

Editor:

My God, I've almost forgotten what it feels like to lower my hardened lance of cynicism and gleaming shield of doubt....

Greetings from fabulous Fountain Street! A one-block universe of stunning dahlias, breathtaking vistas, and beautiful people with whiplash smiles. We Fountainites are a proud and feisty bunch who issue praise the same way we make love—fast, hot, and hard.

As such, I have only briefly set aside my formidable array of weapons to raise a salute of love, respect, and warm fuzzies in your general direction. I have commanded my computer to leave its flat-footed, size 12, triple-E, Fred Flintstone-like imprints at your edoor, for regular doses of your heady blend of wisdom, beauty, and grace. And just when I foolishly think I've grokked all of you, my experienced lover, my heart flies apart like a joy-filled machine when you give birth to your September issue.

Its beauty fills these child-like eyes with grownup tears. Thank you.

Marty Buehrer

Via e-mail



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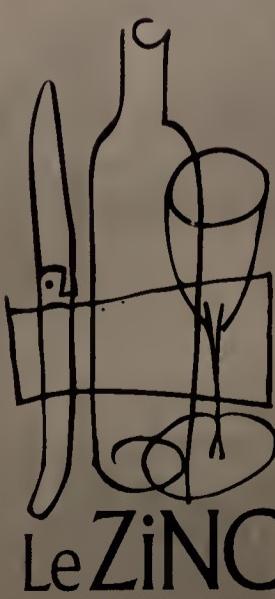
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Candidates and Props on Parade

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

engines illustrated his pride in being a firefighter, paramedic, police officer, and nurse. As part of his career, he has dealt directly with homeless people, he said, and he also supports Prop. N. At the start of his speech, Green displayed a large handwritten placard outlining the points of his campaign. He objects to dangerous panhandling, especially in traffic, and advocates a half-cent alcohol tax (to generate \$5 million for detox programs), a short-term detox clinic, and a 24-hour mental health clinic. He believes that DAPTS (a public service term for "drugs, alcohol, or psychiatric treatment street people") who are arrested for public drunkenness or drug use should be dropped from cash support and switched to service vouchers. (*jgreendistrict8@hotmail.com* or 282-0927)

Eileen Hansen, the only woman candidate in the group, is proud of her community mediation background and three decades of public service. Still, she is concerned about the direction the city has taken by allowing "runaway development and lost diversity" during the economic boom of the '90s. She believes San Francisco should be "affordable and livable" for everyone, including nonprofits, renters, artists, families, seniors, and people of color. "I live here because I don't want to live in Utah or Kansas," she said. "There's a uniqueness here." Hansen advocates long-range planning—for both boom and bust economies—prioritizing city needs, and setting a budget. She opposes Prop. N, and instead supports instituting the "Continuum of Care" plan, developed by more than 200 community experts, which provides substance abuse treatment, mental health services, job training, and transitional housing. "It's a finished plan, but it's been on the shelf," she explained. (*eileenhansensf8.info*)

Shawn O'Hearn, who is a member of San Francisco's Democratic County Central Committee, believes that "the leadership has been missing in the districts," especially since the return of district elections two years ago. He feels that a supervisor should be accessible to the public after—not just before—an election, and he therefore supports opening a District Constituency Office as a place for District 8 residents to gather information. "There's a club for every group imaginable in San Francisco, which is good," he



Community worker Quintin Mecke argues against Prop. N ("Care Not Cash"), as Supervisor Gavin Newsom looks on, at the October election forum sponsored by Friends of Noe Valley.

Photo by Eric Wagner

said, and therefore he advocates a neighborhood council whose members would get together once a month, like an "input meeting," to discuss issues and resolve conflicts among groups. He also supports spending a small amount of the budget—"say, \$100,000"—for neighborhood improvements. (*ohearn4supervisor.com*)

Tom Radulovich, who has been endorsed by incumbent Supervisor Leno, is active in the Noe Valley Democratic Club and SPUR (San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association). Because he believes that quality of life is not district-specific, he advocates citywide improvements, such as better transit (he's served on the BART board for six years) and an increase in housing, as a long-term solution to homelessness. He believes he, like Leno, can bridge the gap between Supervisor Tom Ammiano and Mayor Willie Brown. However, he sides with neither on the "untested" propositions N (Care Not Cash) and O (Exits from Homelessness). As for improving streets, transit, parks, and neighborhoods, "the key issue is livability," he said. He plans to update BART facilities, install new ticket machines, and implement a plaza plan for the 24th and Mission BART Station. He thinks building a new station at 30th and Mission streets, the "greatest gap between BART stations," would revitalize the south-of-Cesar-Chavez community. (*tomradulovich.com*)

Starchild, an exotic dancer and escort, was arguably the sexiest and hippest-looking candidate at the event, sporting a

bohemian canvas jacket, form-fitting pants, and long windblown hair. As the only Libertarian candidate, he called the overwhelmingly Democratic San Francisco a "one-party town." He believes the Democrats in office have misspent our money, and he promises to "get power back to you." He rebuked city workers who earn six-figure salaries and "huge amounts of overtime," and he opposes Prop. J, which would increase supervisor salaries from \$37,585 to \$88,000: "I won't raise my own salary at your expense." He supports civil liberties for everyone, including homeless people, who he feels have the right to sleep in their vehicles (currently prohibited by law) instead of on the streets. "I don't support the city being cruel to the homeless," he said. (Libertarian Party of California, www.ca.lp.org)

What Have You Done for Noe Valley Lately?

After the short speeches, the candidates responded to some hard-hitting questions about Noe Valley neighborhood planning, affordable housing, and dog and park policies.

Highlights included Green's suggestion that park planners grow hedges, as they do in France, instead of erecting "penal Gothic architecture" chain-link fences to separate dog runs from other areas. Another showstopper was Starchild's telling of a childhood anecdote—about a third-grade teacher who kept all the students after school because a few kids had thrown spitballs. Starchild wanted to show how irresponsible dog owners can ruin things for everybody else.

Several candidates were stumped by the savvy question: "What have you done for Noe Valley lately?" Green, O'Hearn, and Starchild were honest about doing nothing. Green, however, said he continued to stay educated by attending local meetings, and Starchild, in keeping with his Libertarian philosophy, promised to "leave Noe Valley alone."

Dufti said he worked with local merchants to combat the acid-etched window vandalism that occurred on 24th Street last summer. Hansen said she facilitated meetings between builders and neighbors to negotiate differences outside the Planning Commission.

A Closer Look at Four Hot Propositions

After the candidates Q&A, Przyblyski introduced spokespersons for and against four propositions on the November ballot: Save Hetch Hetchy, Care Not Cash, Exits from Homelessness, and HOPE.

Jennifer Webber, campaign manager for Prop. A (Hetch Hetchy Repair and Upgrade Revenue Bond), said the bond

measure is needed to repair and earthquake-proof the pipelines and tunnels in our 90-year-old Hetch Hetchy water delivery system. She also claimed water rates would not increase for low-income residents and seniors. Sierra Club member Caleb Kleppner countered that Prop. A would be a step backward: Congress had given Hetch Hetchy to San Francisco, but this proposition returned the authority to the state. In addition, Kleppner said the bond failed to fund the total cost of seismic retrofitting and that residents would pay higher water rates to cover a "massive expansion" of the system. (savehetchhetchy.com, noonpropa.com)

The audience greeted Supervisor Gavin Newsom, who authored Prop. N (Care Not Cash Initiative), with warm applause and cheers. Obviously a graduate of Toastmasters, Newsom silenced the room with his articulate plea for reform of our homeless services system. He said Prop. N was written in response to last year's record number of homeless deaths, which he called "a disgrace, an outrage, a tragedy." He also said, "No other county gives so much and requires so little" of its citizens. He believes Prop. N will "convert the cash [the city now spends on direct grants to the homeless] into guaranteed access to services," such as food, housing, medical care, and drug treatment programs. (carenotcash.org)

Community Vocational Enterprises specialist and former mental health worker Quintin Mecke held his own against the charismatic Newsom. Mecke implored, "Accountability without support is a form of cruelty." There are no "guaranteed services" in Care Not Cash, he maintained, and the destitute must fight over crucial and underfunded services. He asked the audience to imagine living on \$2 a day, and reminded them that they would be "directly influencing someone's life" on Nov. 5. "I find it morally troubling," he said, "for politicians to further their careers on the backs of the homeless." (www.nomorehomelessness.org/committee.htm)

Mecke said Prop. O (Exits from Homelessness Ordinance), which requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop housing, new treatment programs, and annual budgets, was created as a more humane alternative to Prop. N. But Jim Ross, campaign manager for Prop. N, said Prop. O effectively makes Prop. N voluntary.

U.C. Hastings Law student Philip Grady, a renter, voiced his support for Prop. R ("HOPE"—Home Ownership Program for Everyone). He believes the measure, which would allow tenants to buy their units if the owner of a building and at least 25 percent of the tenants agree, will keep middle-class people in the city. "The number-one reason people leave San Francisco is lack of affordable homeownership," Grady said. (sfhope.org)

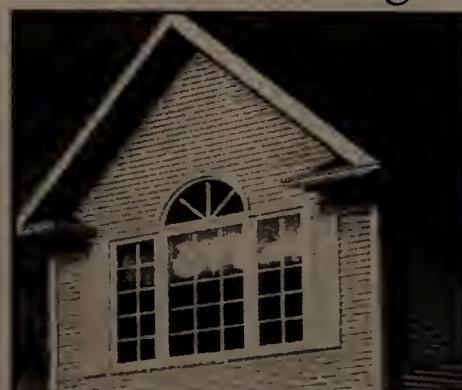
Prop. R opponent Scott Weaver, an attorney who's worked in tenants rights since 1976, countered that under HOPE, few moderate-income tenants would actually become homeowners, because condos still wouldn't be affordable (average selling price is \$500,000 in San Francisco, higher in Noe Valley). He also claimed that the measure provides no real protection against Ellis Act and owner move-in evictions. (saverentcontrol.org)

By the end of Noe Valley Candidates and Issues Night, the audience was full of facts and figures, but much closer to deciding who their choices would be, come Nov. 5. And the San Francisco Giants were well on their way to winning the National League pennant. □

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For more information about Proposition H, please call the Yes on H campaign at 415-621-3700 or visit: www.pensionparity.com

YES on H

Take a Test-Ride on An Electric Bike

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to improve transportation and the environment in the Bay Area.

Folks training for the Tour de France won't find the Electric Bike Company's products too appealing, however. Both of the models Roseman promotes are heavy—48 to 73 pounds, including the battery—and they do a lot of the work for you. But speed racers like Lance Armstrong are not the market Roseman is trying to reach.

"I see people where I live, at the top of 24th Street, get in their cars, drive eight blocks, and spend 10 minutes looking for parking, all to buy a bag of groceries," he explains. It's those riders, he says, who would benefit from an electric bicycle. They could zip down, do their shopping, and zip back up the hill without too much exertion. Huge quads are not the goal. Ease of transportation is.

Aside from the bikes' weight, which makes them difficult to tote up stairs or squeeze through tight doorways, the *Voice*, after conducting our own three-day trial, could find few drawbacks.

All the rider does is pedal. The bike senses how much power is needed, and four gears give you the option to use more or less juice, or none at all. The ride is smooth and powerful, and the bikes are well-built and comfortable.

Their top speed is 20 miles per hour, and they travel from 15 to 25 miles before you need to recharge the battery, by plugging a separate charger into a wall outlet. To charge a completely worn-down battery takes five hours or less.

The prices are not exactly garage-sale bargains—\$995 for the L.A. Free Sport and \$1,195 for the L.A. Free Lite—but



Steve Roseman (left) shows Diane Flynn and Donald Huie how to saddle up his electric bikes, made by Giant Bicycles.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

they're also close to the usual cost of a new, high-quality bicycle.

Roseman, a 20-year veteran of Hewlett-Packard, got the idea for the company while spending a summer in Seattle. There, he bought his first electric bike from a fellow cycling enthusiast. He was hooked. "It completely changed the way I got around and my view of transportation," he says. "When [my wife and I] were preparing to come back to San Francisco, it was clear to me that the San Francisco market was ideal for electric bikes."

The L.A. Free models aren't the first

electric bikes on the market, but Roseman believes they're the best way to introduce the skeptical public to this relatively new twist on transit.

"These bikes are made by Giant Bicycles, which is one of the top five bike companies in the world, and they know how to make, service, and distribute bikes," he explains. "I wanted to go with a bike that I thought was really well-built and would be good for people, have a good price, and have great factory support."

After he's spread the word about electric bikes in Noe Valley, Roseman plans

to expand his efforts to neighborhoods throughout San Francisco and the East Bay. "All I want to do is change how the world views transportation," he says, and he's taking it one hill at a time. □

For more information about the Electric Bike Network, visit www.electricbikenetwork.com or call 415-647-0886.



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Local Merchants Try to Shake Off Economic Blues

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Val-Pak coupons, but found that 9 out of 10 customers walk in because of word-of-mouth referrals. "I'm definitely at the 'concerned' stage," he says glumly, but he hasn't given up hope yet. He believes that once pet owners become aware that he'll match or beat the prices of his competitors, they are likely to patronize his shop.

A number of upscale restaurants and liquor shops in Noe Valley are also hurting because of the economic slowdown.

"It's hard to have a restaurant open with no people in it," laments Diego Ragazzo, owner of Noi Food and Wine on 24th near Castro. Ragazzo says he is most proud of the restaurant's \$15 veal saltimbocca dish, but these days he is considering serving lower-priced pasta dishes and appetizers to increase business. He also may bring back Noi's "half-off" evenings, which were successful in July and September.

Walid Masoud, owner of Urban Cellars on 24th near Church, is another merchant who is feeling the pinch. "Let's put it this way," he says. "The year 2000 was a very good year. Last year dropped. This year dropped even more."

Masoud thinks the biggest drop correlated with the Enron and WorldCom scandals in July. He's not sure, though, if the

local economy has hit bottom. "Typically, I'm an optimistic guy, but I honestly don't see it coming to an end yet."

To attract more customers, Masoud might resort to using his store marquee, which traditionally features jokes and lighthearted homilies, to display wine specials. But Masoud's sense of humor is important to him, so he says he'll return the marquee to fun one-liners once business improves.

Marjory Panetti sells an impressive array of one-of-a-kind gifts and contemporary crafts in her namesake store located in the busiest block of 24th Street, between Sanchez and Noe. But even Panetti's has had a drop in sales since the end of the dot-com boom.

"It's definitely been down in the last year or two," says Panetti. "Last year, 9/11 was the thing that crashed everything. It wasn't good before that, but after 9/11, it really seemed to affect the sales."

Like other longtime Noe Valley merchants, Panetti has also witnessed an exodus from the neighborhood because of lost jobs. In fact, she ended up hiring someone who'd been "downsized from a nice dot-com job."

Still, Panetti is cautiously optimistic about upcoming holiday sales. "We can look forward to a little better holiday season," she says.

To bring in holiday shoppers, Panetti is stocking up on items she believes resonate with the tone of the times. "People have less disposable income, and they're going to each others' houses instead of

spending a lot of money," she says, "so I'm concentrating on things that make wonderful hostess gifts, to make the home more appealing, more party-like."

Even if the Bay Area-wide recession drags on into next year, however, it doesn't mean the neighborhood is going down the tubes. Noe Valley is a strong community with a solid economy of its own, and it's survived several past recessions.

Panetti is quick to acknowledge her biggest source of support: Noe Valley residents. "People who own homes, the permanent residents, are wonderfully loyal and supportive," she says.

Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association President Kathy Zucchi agrees. "Noe Valley is an insular community. People who live here like to do business here," says Zucchi, who runs a branch of Edward Jones Investments on Diamond Street.

Many local merchants also say they are still earning enough to stay afloat and, if they have to, finding new ways to cut costs. Others are confident that their unique merchandise or special services will help them weather the economic storm.

Diane Kudisch, who owns the San Francisco Mystery Bookstore, at 24th Street near Diamond, a 27-year neighborhood institution, is running a "T.G.I.A.F." ("Thank God It's Almost Friday") promotion every Thursday (buy two paperbacks and get a third half-off). She also plans to sell hardbacks for 20 percent off after Thanksgiving. In addition, Kudisch will continue the shop's

book signings, reading groups, and other events for mystery book lovers. (The neighborhood is especially invited to come meet local authors and eat holiday food at the store's Open House on Saturday, Dec. 14, starting at 1 p.m.)

Video Wave of Noe Valley, at Castro near 25th, is another store that relies on loyal customers and neighborhood support. Owner Alexander Gardener offers free popcorn and encourages lively conversation among patrons browsing the video and DVD collection. "It's like a coffee shop without the coffee," he says.

Still other businesses thrive by banking on the "lipstick sales factor." That is, they sell a lot of little things instead of relying on big-ticket items.

For example, the clothing store Ambiance, on 24th Street near Noe, which manager Pamela Gamble calls "Sweaters R Us," sells youthful and trendy outfits and trinkets, sometimes for as little as \$10 or \$15. Gamble suggests that bargain hunters check the weekly markdowns and once-a-month 20-percent-off weekends and join the mailing list to receive regular discount coupons.

Parents appreciate the small wooden toys and hand puppets found in the Ark, at 24th and Vicksburg, which is having a sale on Thomas the Tank toys in November and December. Fragrance aficionados can find sweet-smelling stocking stuffers at a 20-percent-off sale Nov. 1 to 3 at Common Scents, on 24th near Sanchez.

And neighborhood merchants that specialize in used clothing are also holding their own. Peek-a-Boo Boutique, at Castro near 24th, won this year's Best of the Bay award from the *San Francisco Bay Guardian* for its constantly revolving inventory of secondhand children's clothes. Owner Paul Morgan attributes the store's success to its uniqueness and location, right next to a major stop for the 24-Divisadero bus. "People who would otherwise not set foot in Noe Valley see this store from the bus, and they come in," he says.

A few local businesses are not just bringing in a steady stream of customers. They can barely keep up with demand for their services.

Dan Gamaldi, who runs the venerable Cradle of the Sun stained-glass shop at 24th and Vicksburg, says he has a three-to four-month waiting list for his classes, which he's increased to five days per week to meet the demand. "People like doing stained-glass," Gamaldi explains. "There's a lot of camaraderie in the classes, and the classes get people out of the house, where they don't have to deal with the kids, and into a friendly class environment. It forces them to do stained-glass instead of sitting at home, watching TV."

In addition, Cradle of the Sun is busy selling finished pieces, tools, and supplies, and instructional books and videos. Gamaldi's own instructional video has been released this month, in time for gift shopping for aspiring stained-glass artists.

Another thriving enterprise is Castro Computer Services, on Castro near 24th. Owner Raj Walia reports that business may even be better due to the economic downturn, because computer users are getting their computers repaired instead of buying new ones.

And like other solid Noe Valley businesses, Walia offers friendly customer service.

On a recent Tuesday, Walia's pet bird, a blue-and-gold macaw named "Athena," sat on his shoulder, occasionally knocking off his spectacles, while Walia responded to questions from customers and dispensed advice about Internet service providers, digital cameras, and scanners. Athena, who sometimes mimics the "Hi!" and "Hello!" of store visitors, is guaranteed to bring in the crowds. Nevertheless, Walia is hedging his bets this holiday season: he will be giving away free 2003 calendars, starting Dec. 1. □



Manager Gary McDonald says there's no mystery why fewer browsers have been turning up at the San Francisco Mystery Bookstore: it's the economy, Sherlock. But he and store owner Diane Kudisch hope to solve that problem by hosting more book signings and offering a 20 percent discount on hardback books after Thanksgiving.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

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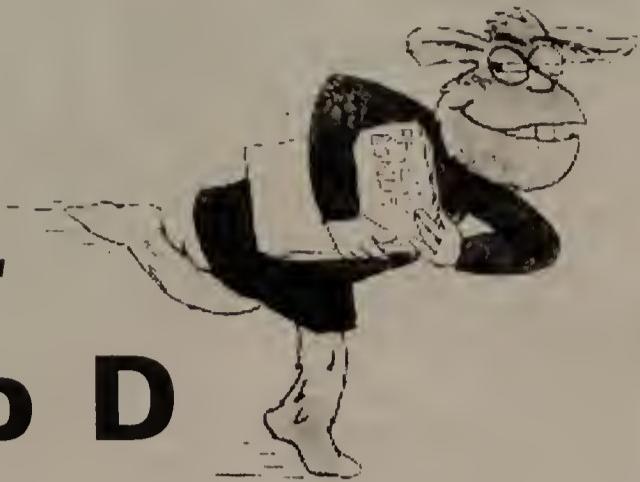
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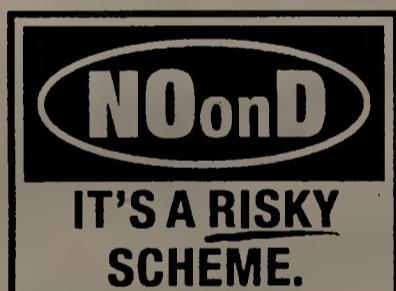
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Many Ways to Share This Thanksgiving

By Laura McHale Holland

"Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after a special manner rejoice together after we had gathered the fruit of our labors. They four in one day killed as much fowl as, with a little help beside, served the company almost a week. At which time, amongst other recreations, we exercised our arms. Many of the Indians coming amongst us, and among the rest their greatest King Massasoit, with some 90 men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five deer, which they brought to the plantation and bestowed on our governor, and upon the captain and others."

—Edward Winslow

Plymouth Colony, 1621

Excerpted from *Mourt's Relation*, originally published in London, 1622

Much has changed since the Pilgrims' 1621 harvest feast—now popularly referred to as the first Thanksgiving. But the urge to sit down to a meal with family and friends, and to share our bounty with others, remains.

The colonists downed their turkeys, geese, ducks, and even, gulp, swans outdoors, because none of their buildings could accommodate a large number of people. You, however, can begin your Thanksgiving revels in the cozy Noe Valley Ministry building surrounded by the members, alumni, and friends of the Noe Valley Co-Op Nursery School.

"Our Thanksgiving feast is open to the whole community. Homeless folks are welcome, for instance. Merchants are welcome. All Noe Valley folk are invited," says Nina Youkelson, the school's director since its inception in 1969. "It originally started for family—cousins, grandparents, aunts, and uncles—who were visiting for the holidays. Then we added alumni, and then when the seniors came for the lunch program at the Ministry many years later, we added them. And, of course, the Noe Valley Ministry's congregation is invited, and the other people who use this facility. We'd especially love to see our alumni," she adds.

The turkey and trimmings, including pies and bread made by the school's children, will be served at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 27. The Ministry is at 1021 Sanchez Street, at 23rd Street.

Donate Canned Food

If you want to help people who are down on their luck enjoy a wholesome



The tots from the Noe Valley Nursery School have invited the Noe Valley Ministry's senior lunch bunch to attend their Thanksgiving feast on Wednesday, Nov. 27. Photo by Pamela Gerard

Thanksgiving meal, there are many places in the neighborhood where you'll be able to donate canned or other non-perishable foods. Here is a sampling of opportunities to give in the neighborhood.

First, many public schools in the city participate in the San Francisco Food Bank's Thanksgiving Food Drive, including Alvarado School at Douglass and 23rd streets and James Lick School at Noe and Clipper streets.

"The Food Bank people bring in these great big drums, and the children and neighbors donate canned goods for people in need. It's just things that aren't perishable, things that are healthy for people like beans, canned soups, tuna," says Alvarado's school secretary, Patty Poli.

Join the Cub Scouts

Cub Scout Pack 88 will also be soliciting donations for the San Francisco Food Bank, on Saturdays, Nov. 9 and 16. They'll assemble at the Real Management Company (RMC), 1234 Castro Street, at 9 a.m., and fan out through the neighborhood, knocking on doors. Someone also will be at the office each of those days until 3 p.m., if you would like to drop off foods there.

"Collecting food for the San Francisco Food Bank is one of two community service projects our Cubs do each year," says pack leader Bob Boileau. (Call him if you're interested in learning more: 826-6359.) Last year, the Scouts collected 1,000 pounds of canned and boxed food. Their goal this year is 1,500 pounds.

Help Fill Those Food Baskets

Many faith communities in the neighborhood are doing food drives as well. St. Paul's Church at Church and Valley streets is collecting non-perishable food for Thanksgiving baskets each Sunday in November, before and after masses. For more information, call 648-7538.

One block away, the Church at San Francisco at 28th and Church streets, is

doing the same thing. You can donate food at the church, or if you have money to help purchase turkeys, call 642-0302.

"We distributed a flyer about the program, and already by mid-October about 15 families were signed up for baskets," says church secretary Teresa Bell. "We put a large barrel in front of the church each day where people can just drop off cans of green beans, corn, canned gravy, cranberry sauce, macaroni and cheese, boxes of stuffing, all the non-perishable trimmings."

Another group preparing Thanksgiving packets for families in Upper Noe Valley and the Mission is the Missionaries of Charity, located within St. Paul's at 312 29th Street near Church Street.

"The packets will be for families that our novitiates [sisters in training] visit throughout the year, as part of their preparation to join the order," says Sister Thomas More, who is charged with mentoring novices of this religious order founded by Mother Teresa in 1982.

"We welcome canned goods or any type of food that won't spoil quickly. You can bring them from 8 a.m. to noon or from 3 to 6:30 p.m., seven days a week. Between noon and 3 p.m. we're not free to come to the door so much. We have our prayer time, and the sisters have classes," she adds. For more information, call 647-1889.

Give to the Salvation Army

Do you have a surplus of produce or bread? There is one organization nearby that will take fresh food. It's the Salvation Army at 1509 Valencia Street, at 26th.

"We can take donations of food and clothing right at the store," says store manager John Boatman. "The food will go to the Salvation Army's rehabilitation program across the street. They will do a special Thanksgiving meal, but they also cook about 150 meals per day, all three meals, so they can use any type of food. And if they end up with extra food, they donate it to the San Francisco Food Bank, St. Anthony's, and Glide Memorial Church. I'll set up some barrels here for food, so send people over," he adds. "We're open from 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., every day except Sunday."

Make Peanut Butter Sandwiches

If you're a hands-on sort of person, you can join members of Bethany Church at Clipper and Sanchez at noon on the first Sunday of each month. They make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in their kitchen and then distribute them at the Civic Center. They also always have canned goods on hand to distribute to people who come to the church for help.

Here's another possibility for those associated with a business or event that has leftovers too good to be thrown away. You might follow the lead of the Noe Valley Bakery on 24th Street. At the end of each day, the bakery donates baked goods that would otherwise go to waste to Food Runners, an organization of volunteers who pick up perishable and prepared food

and deliver it to organizations that feed the hungry. To donate your extras, call 929-1866. A volunteer will come pick it up pronto. For more information, go to www.foodrunners.org.

Look for Charities Online

If you're a mouse potato who's feeling generous, check out www.justgive.org. Founded in 1999 by former Noe Valley resident Kendall Webb (she moved to Berkeley three months ago), JustGive is a nonprofit organization that aims to increase overall giving by connecting people with the charities and causes they care about via the Internet.

"I was working at a dot-com and saw the incredible value of the Internet for the nonprofit sector," recalls Webb. "Sadly, the nonprofits could not afford to set up online donating for themselves, and the hundreds of service companies entering this arena were doing it as a for-profit business. [So] I hired nine friends, at half their rate, who took sabbaticals from their jobs for a year to help me launch the site."

Now more than 4,000 donors use [justgive.org](http://www.justgive.org) to make regular contributions, and all 850,000 registered charities in the U.S. are able to get help through the site. When you log on, you can search for a particular charity, or browse by category, such as Animals, Arts, Children, Environment, Health, Homeless, and Peace.

National Adoption Month

If you want to do something huge, something far beyond donating food or money, consider this: November is National Adoption Awareness Month.

"We feel a great deal of education needs to be done to inform the public about the continuing critical need for adoptive parents, and to help families understand how readily possible it is for them to adopt an infant at this time," says Bradford Woo, San Francisco coordinator for ACCEPT, a Los Altos-based adoption and counseling center.

ACCEPT has information on many paths to adoption for couples and singles, including how to help abandoned, neglected, or abused children find permanent, loving families. Call 681-4957 for information and a free guidebook, "How to Adopt a Child from Around the World."

If you begin the adoption process now, in a few years you could be one of the parents at the Noe Valley Co-op Nursery School. And your youngster could be kneading dough for the annual Thanksgiving feast. Maybe you could even expand the menu to include frumenty, a wheat pudding that the Pilgrims may have eaten at their harvest feast back in the 17th century. See recipe below. □

Frumenty

Ingredients

1 cup cracked wheat
1/8 teaspoon ground mace
1 quart water
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
3/4 cup milk
1/4 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup heavy cream
2 egg yolks
1/2 teaspoon salt
Additional brown sugar

Directions: In a large pot, bring the water to a boil and add the wheat. Lower heat to simmer, cover, and continue to cook for 1/2 hour or until soft. Drain off all the water and add the milk, cream, salt, mace, cinnamon, and sugar. Continue to simmer, stirring occasionally, until most of the liquid is absorbed (20 to 30 minutes). In a small bowl, beat the egg yolks and slowly stir 1/2 cup of the wheat mixture into the yolks. Then stir the yolk mixture into the pot, and continue cooking for another 5 minutes, stirring frequently. Serve sprinkled with brown sugar.

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The Cost of Living in Noe

Condos Outsell Homes

By Corrie M. Anders

This year's stock market meltdown must have spared a few people.

Buyers recently paid more than \$2 million for a huge house on Fair Oaks, a short but quaint street of Victorian-era homes located on the Mission side of Noe Valley. The house, unusually large for Fair Oaks, has five bedrooms and 3½ baths.

The multimillion-dollar home was one of five single-family homes sold in September. That's one more than September of last year, when the stock market was considerably stronger.

Still, Noe Valley homebuyers have been paying closer attention to their pocketbooks. In September '02, for the first time in several years, buyers did not engage in making aggressive offers above the seller's original asking price. Sellers on average received 97 percent

of their asking price, according to data supplied to the *Voice* by Zephyr Real Estate.

Also, there were fewer shoppers during late summer—an "old-economy" tradition. "The slowdown was getting [owners] to negotiate a little bit more and come down on their prices," explains Randall Kostick, sales manager at Zephyr's 24th Street office.

Another indication of penny-pinching: Buyers in September opted for condominiums as a less expensive alternative to higher-priced single-family homes. Ten condos closed escrow at an average price of \$697,800. Compare that to September a year ago, when only four Noe Valley condos changed hands, at an average price of \$755,000. However, this year's buyers were willing to cough up 3 percent over asking price.

The most expensive condo—a three-bedroom, 2½-bath unit on High Street (a tiny street above Grand View)—sold for an even \$1 million. □

| | | Total Sales | Low Price (\$) | High Price (\$) | Average Price (\$) | Avg. Days on Market | Sale Price As % of List Price |
|------------------------------|----|-------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Single-family homes | | | | | | | |
| Sept. 02 | 5 | \$690,000 | \$2,105,000 | \$1,075,400 | 37 | 97% | |
| Aug. 02 | 10 | \$715,000 | \$1,410,000 | \$924,200 | 38 | 106% | |
| Sept. 01 | 4 | \$585,000 | \$985,000 | \$752,000 | 15 | 105% | |
| Condominiums | | | | | | | |
| Sept. 02 | 10 | \$440,000 | \$1,000,000 | \$697,800 | 32 | 103% | |
| Aug. 02 | 2 | \$640,000 | \$840,000 | \$740,000 | 27 | 110% | |
| Sept. 01 | 4 | \$285,000 | \$1,550,000 | \$755,000 | 18 | 98% | |
| 2 to 4 unit buildings | | | | | | | |
| Sept. 02 | 5 | \$685,000 | \$1,140,000 | \$888,000 | 30 | 104% | |
| Aug. 02 | 3 | \$1,218,000 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,337,667 | 18 | 100% | |
| Sept. 01 | 3 | \$700,000 | \$1,290,000 | \$915,333 | 37 | 97% | |
| 5+ unit buildings | | | | | | | |
| Sept. 02 | 0 | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Aug. 02 | 0 | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Sept. 01 | 0 | — | — | — | — | — | |

*Information provided to the *Noe Valley Voice* courtesy of Zephyr Real Estate (www.zephyr-re.com) and based on all Noe Valley home sales (escrow closings) recorded during month. "Noe Valley" in this survey is defined as the area bordered by Grand View, 22nd, Guerrero, and 30th streets.

11/02

Noe Valley Rents*

| Apartment Size | Average Rents (July – Sept. 2002) | Average Rents a Year Ago (July – Sept. 2001) | % Increase (+) or Decrease (-) |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Studio | \$ 1,079 / mo. | \$ 1,220 / mo. | -11.6% |
| 1 bedroom | 1,560 / mo. | 1,730 / mo. | -9.8% |
| 2 bedrooms | 2,261 / mo. | 2,415 / mo. | -6.4% |
| 3 or more bedrooms | 2,744 / mo. | 3,118 / mo. | -12.0% |

*Source: Rent Tech, Inc. (www.renttech.com).

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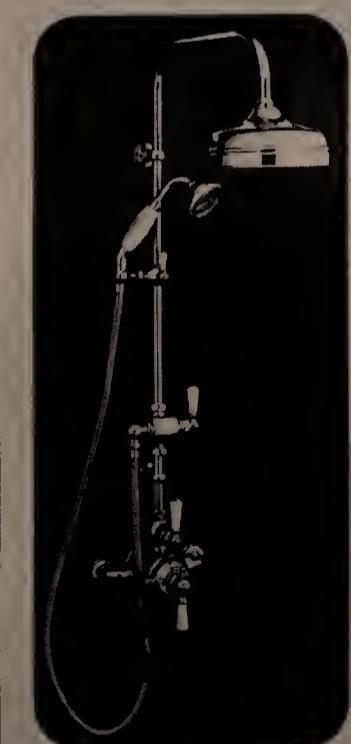
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POLICE B E A T

The following crime summaries were culled from incident reports filed at Mission and Ingleside police stations during September 2002.

Residential Burglary: Between 2:45 and 3:51 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 5; 4000 block of 22nd Street

At 2:45 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 5, a woman returning to her residence in the 4000 block of 22nd Street near Diamond noticed two unfamiliar young men sitting on the steps of her neighbor's home. One of the men was playing with a pizza delivery flyer he was holding in his hand. The woman felt uncomfortable about walking past the men, so she left the block without going into her house, hoping they would be gone by the time she returned.

When she came back 40 minutes later, she found the deadbolt to her side gate unlocked and a pizza flyer hanging on the door. She also noticed that her dog was outside. Since she had left her dog inside when she'd left the house that morning, she immediately suspected that someone had entered her home.

When police arrived on the scene, they found the side door to the living room unlocked. Police searched the entire house and yard, but did not find anyone in the home. However, they determined that an unknown suspect had entered the home through a bedroom window. The resident noticed that several items, including a camera, a DVD player, and a collection of DVD disks were missing from a living-room cabinet, and that several other

items in the home had been touched and moved. Police called Crime Scene Investigations to follow up. The case has been assigned to the SFPD's Burglary Division.

Note: A similar burglary occurred in the 700 block of Elizabeth Street near Douglass Street on Friday, Aug. 23, between 4 and 4:45 p.m. A wedding ring valued at \$10,000, a Sony camcorder, a Dell laptop computer, a Pioneer DVD player, several DVDs, and a Sony CD player were stolen. In this incident, the same pizza delivery flyer was found hanging on the front door, and earlier in the day, neighbors had noticed two young men sitting on the front steps of the home. This case has also been assigned to the SFPD's Burglary Division.

Residential Burglary: Between 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 6; 1700 block of Dolores Street

A resident of an apartment building in the 1700 block of Dolores Street near 30th left his home at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 6. When he returned home at 7 p.m., he found a window open that he thought he had left closed. He then noticed that a tray to his DVD player was open and that 20 DVD movies were missing along with his cell phone. When police arrived at the apartment, they discovered fingerprints on the DVD player and the window, and called Crime Scene Investigations for follow-up. The case has been assigned to the SFPD's Burglary Division.

Residential Burglary: Between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 13; 1600 block of Dolores Street

When he arrived home from work at 6 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 13, a resident of the 1600 block of Dolores Street near Day discovered that his mountain bike, a computer bag, and an electric saw were missing from his garage. He told police that a family member who had been making re-

pairs to the home had left the garage door open while he was on the premises during the day. Police found no signs of forced entry, and determined that an unknown suspect entered and exited through the open garage door. The case has been assigned to the SFPD's Burglary Division.

Theft from Locked Vehicle: 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21; 1400 block of Dolores Street

Around midnight on Saturday, Sept. 21, the owner of a black Chevrolet Blazer parked and locked his truck in the driveway of a home in the 1400 block of Dolores Street (near 28th) and went inside the home. Twenty minutes later, he got back in the car and was driving only a few blocks when he noticed that the passenger-side window had been broken out. He also discovered that two credit cards, his driver's license, two cell phones, and his house keys were missing from the truck. He immediately cancelled his credit cards and had the locks to his home changed.

Verbal Threats: 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 25; 4000 block of 24th Street

At 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 25, a 35-year-old woman who was panhandling near a parking lot in the 4000 block of 24th Street approached a police officer acting "very upset and shaken" about a 51-year-old man who was panhandling near her. She told the officer that the man had been "stepping out in front of people and holding out his cup within a foot or two of their faces and leaning toward them and shaking the cup at them," then yelling expletives if they did not give him money. Bothered by his behavior, she told the man, "You shouldn't do people like that." He allegedly replied with several expletive-laced threats. The woman told the officer that the man frightened her and that she was worried that he might hurt her. Police arrested the man and booked him at Mission Station.

Residential Burglary: Between 7:15 and 9 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 29; 4000 block of 20th Street

At 9 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 29, a resident of a home in the 4000 block of 20th Street near Noe discovered that his red "stump-jumper" mountain bike, valued at \$2,000, was missing from his garage. The resident told police that his girlfriend had arrived at his home around 7:15 p.m., and that he had opened the garage door to let her in, but failed to close it. Neither he nor his girlfriend heard or saw anyone in the garage. The case has been assigned to the SFPD's Burglary Division.

Possession of Marijuana: 10:20 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 29, 400 block of Jersey Street

A little after 10 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 29, a group of several young men and one

woman were standing in front of a home in the 400 block of Jersey Street near Diamond. Police officers, who were investigating an ongoing complaint about the possible sale of narcotics on the block, approached the group. When the officers asked a 22-year-old man his name, he replied that there might be a warrant out for his arrest on an outstanding traffic violation. Police asked him for identification, and he gave them his passport. A police officer then noticed the man put his left hand inside his jacket pocket. The man attempted to turn away from the officer as he pulled his hand from his pocket, and the officer noticed two zip-lock bags with "green vegetable matter" between the tips of the man's fingers. The officer determined that the "green vegetable matter" was marijuana and placed the man under arrest, later transporting him to Mission Station for booking. □

The Voice thanks Mission Police Officer Lorraine Lombardo and Ingleside Officer Mike Smith for providing the incident reports for this month's Police Beat. The reports were summarized by Kathy Dalle-Molle.

How to Contact the SFPD

Noe Valley straddles two San Francisco police districts—Mission and Ingleside—each with its own turf. Mission Police Station covers the northern half of the neighborhood, from 21st Street to Cesar Chavez Street. Ingleside Police Station has jurisdiction over the southern half of Noe Valley, from Cesar Chavez Street to Glen Park.

Those who live or work within the Mission Police District can report recurring crimes or safety problems by phoning Mission Station at 558-5400. You also may send email to Capt. Greg Corrales at gcorrales@ci.sf.ca.us, or attend police/community meetings held the last Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 26, 6 p.m., at Mission Station, 630 Valencia Street. (To report anonymously on drugs, gangs, or other crime, call Mission Station's nontraceable hotline at 558-5452.)

Residents and merchants in "outer" Noe Valley—south of Cesar Chavez—can contact Ingleside Station by calling 404-4000 or emailing Capt. Kevin Dillon at kKevin.Dillon@ci.sf.ca.us. The Ingleside police/community meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at Ingleside Station, 1 Sergeant John Young Lane, near the 2000 block of San Jose Avenue. The next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 19, at 7 p.m.

To report a crime in progress, call 911. (Cell phone users, dial 553-8090.)

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This 'n' That

By Laura McHale Holland

As November dawns, we arise in darkness to prepare for our days. We make sure our hats and scarves are at the ready to keep out the wind. We gather 'round crackling fireplaces and in cozy kitchens to pass the long autumn evenings. We switch on lamps and chandeliers to read or work by. And we hope for news of other lights, ones that illuminate us from within and help us smile. Here are some of those other lights glowing in our neighborhood.

Day Street resident Michael Siani-Rose, a biomedical researcher by day, spends his spare time running through Golden Gate Park and around Lake Merced. Why? He's preparing for his first marathon on Dec. 8—in Hawaii.

"People come from all over the world to run there just because, you know, it's Hawaii," says Siani-Rose. But he's running the 26.2-mile 30th annual Honolulu Marathon for a different reason. It is also the National AIDS Marathon, and Siani-Rose is set on raising at least \$3,000 for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. So far, he has raised \$2,100.

"The money will allow the Foundation to continue providing AIDS services and support needle exchange programs throughout the Bay Area to help stop the spread of HIV. Proceeds will also fund a new initiative to support vaccine preparedness and HIV treatment in the developing world. This part I like since I'm hoping that an effective vaccine will be possible—it will be particularly relevant to the developing world," he says.

To make a donation on Siani-Rose's



Students from Immaculate Conception Academy, including Nora Morehead of the Class of 2002 (inset), recently dedicated a year-long mural project depicting their emotional and spiritual response to the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

behalf, visit www.aidsmarathon.com. He is runner number 1213. You can also call him at 821-2988.

It wasn't money two schools raised recently. It was spirits. The Alvarado Elementary School and the Immaculate Conception Academy (ICA) communities each found their own way to commemorate the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on our soil.

Paul Lanier, artist-in-residence at Alvarado, said this about the school's Sept. 11 ceremony this year. "We wanted to mark the day, and our principal, David Weiner, decided that it would be positive, nothing sad, nothing about dying, but that it would be about thinking about our fam-

ilies, people we love, people that are very special to us. The whole school wrote either a prayer, a poem, or a thought on a piece of paper, and we made a 200-foot banner of multicolored paper and stretched it across the yard. My idea was to plant trees, too. I researched and found out that the olive is a symbol for peace; the pine tree is a symbol of longevity, and the bamboo is a symbol of perseverance because it bends in the wind, but doesn't break. So we planted one of each, and it's nice to have some trees in the schoolyard now."

Under the guidance of art teacher Marybeth Tereszkiewicz, ICA students began work on a series of murals for their cafeteria within weeks of the terrorist attacks. The murals were dedicated on the anniversary this year.

"The two largest murals contrast and blend unconscious and conscious visions and memories of the death and destruction of September 11," notes ICA staffer Lyn Isbell. "On the left side, the rays of the sun penetrate blue and gray images of nightmare fear and grief. On the right side, the moon presides over conscious images in bright colors. Two female figures, one an earth spirit, the other an angelic being, flank flowers growing out of flames and fish swimming in a peace symbol. Four smaller murals circle the room. One of these, adjoining the east door, incorporates in its design flames, the American flag, and the dove of peace." The murals' blessing service included poetry, photography, music, dance, and excerpted texts from the world's great religions.

ICA graduate Nora Morehead, who now attends San Francisco State University and works at Isa's Hair Salon on Castro Street, was one of a dozen students who worked on the murals. "Painting the

mural was a meditative experience which gave me time to reflect not only on the political landscape after September 11, but also on my senior year as I was about to enter a world that seemed increasingly chaotic," she says. "It gave me a calming and hopeful center during a stressful year."

A local merchant who has helped women relieve stress and increase vitality through sports and fitness is Lori Shannon, owner of See Jane Run, a specialty retail store designed to meet the needs of active women.

In recognition of Shannon's service to the community and to her success, Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center named her Established Entrepreneur of the Year this October. Renaissance is a nonprofit organization in the city that provides training and support services to small businesses. They give two awards to graduates of their programs each year, one for an emerging and one for an established entrepreneur.

"Before I started my business, I took Renaissance Center's business planning class. It's a very intensive three-month program that's been referred to as a mini MBA. I also took a class called action and growth planning," recalls Shannon. "Renaissance has been an incredible resource for me. They've taught me a great deal, and it's very exciting to be honored like this."

Shannon opened her women's athletic wear store on 24th Street in April 2000. Her monthly sales swiftly rose from \$20,000 to \$125,000. She opened a second store in Oakland's Rockridge District in December 2001, and despite the slug-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

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This 'n' That

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

gish economy, See Jane Run is thriving.

"Our heartfelt goal is to encourage women of all sizes and ages to get out, do sports, and use our store as a launching pad for their efforts," says Shannon. "We carry all sizes, and probably have the best selection of athletic apparel and footwear for women in the Bay Area. We also support women's causes and make that a big part of our mission, to support causes that affect women such as breast cancer and other women's health issues."

Not bad for a former computer scientist with a vision, who quit her corporate job, then sold her car and used other creative financing to come up with \$12,000 to open her first store.

Another person with vision is making waves in the neighborhood—sweet sound waves, that is. Elizabeth Street resident Missy Roback's debut CD, *Just Like Breathing*, was released Oct. 22, on her own record label, Hear Kitty Records. The release party will be Nov. 3 at the Make-out Room, 3225 22nd Street, between Mission and Valencia streets. The show starts at 9 p.m.

"The CD features my vocals [which have been compared to Aimee Mann and Emmylou Harris] over cool atmospheric arrangements," says Roback. "It was produced by my husband, songwriter Steven Roback of Rain Parade, and mixed by Tim Mooney of American Music Club. Both are legendary California bands. The CD wouldn't exist without Steven. As the producer, he was responsible for the sound, and he played many of the instruments. He also encouraged me to write my own music and record it. Until then, I was just happy to be playing Lucinda Williams songs in my cover band. We describe the music as psychedelic alternative-country, but it easily fits in rock/pop, alternative-country, Americana, folk-rock, and psychedelic/space-rock formats," she adds.

"Compass," one of the songs on the CD, is also on the soundtrack to the hit TV show *Felicity*. The show is now in syndication, airing daily on the Women's Entertainment Network. For *Felicity* fans, the song is in a scene from the second season, where Felicity and David, her grad-school, art-student friend, are walking down the street, holding hands.

If you miss the release party, you can

buy a CD online at www.hearkittyrecords.com or at Streetlight Records on 24th Street.

While you're on our main drag, you might want to stop in at Cover to Cover Booksellers or Phoenix Books and Records to request a book by a neighbor whose office is on 24th Street at Castro. Psychotherapist Elaine N. Aron's latest book, *The Highly Sensitive Child: Helping our Children Thrive When the World Overwhelms Them*, was just published on Oct. 8. Her prior books, *The Highly Sensitive Person*, *The Highly Sensitive Person Workbook*, and *The Highly Sensitive Person in Love*, have been phenomenally successful.

"I joke that I'm not going to write *The Highly Sensitive Pet*, *The HSP Diet Book*, or *Gardening for the HSP*. I think this is the last book, but each book has been written in response to a need, or to a lot of requests," says Aron.

Her first book in this series was published by Carol Publishing, a small press that has since gone out of business. It became a bestseller in the Bay Area due to word of mouth and sales at independent bookstores. Aron says an article about her that appeared in the *Voice* helped as well (March 1998). Now over a quarter million books have been sold in English, and the book has been translated into six languages: Chinese, Japanese, French, Dutch, Portuguese, and Greek.

According to Aron, about 20 percent of people are born highly sensitive. They are more reflective and process information from their five senses more carefully. This makes them creative, intuitive, and conscientious. The downside is that they are overwhelmed more easily than others. (Think you're an HSP? Visit www.hsperson.com to take a test to see if you're right.) While researching children, Aron found that highly sensitive youngsters share many adult HSP traits, such as being very sensitive to pain, startling easily, and being bothered by noisy places. Highly sensitive children also learn better from a gentle correction than from a harsh punishment. They don't tend to do well with big changes, and they often ask deep, thought-provoking questions.

"Highly sensitive children are prone to big problems if they are parented wrong," says Aron. "Sensitive adults who've had bad childhoods, especially bad family lives, are far more likely to be depressed, anxious, or shy than non-sensitive people with the same bad childhood. But sensitive adults with good enough childhoods are not more depressed, anxious, or shy than other people. So childhood is important.

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Noe Valley singer Missy Roback, whose band plays "psychedelic alternative-country," has put out a CD on the Hear Kitty label called *Just Like Breathing*.

Photo by Erica Magrey

"Every trait has a positive and negative way of looking at it," she continues. "Persistence is a good thing; stubbornness is a bad thing. Boldness is good, but impulsiveness is bad. We almost don't have a good word for sensitive children. We have a lot of negative words like inhibited, shy, and fussy. That reflects our culture. In China, sensitive, quiet children are the most popular. But sensitivity is not the ideal in this culture. So it's difficult to raise sensitive children with high self-esteem. And it's difficult to know what to do when your child behaves differently than other children. You want them to behave just like the others, but when you try to make them do that, and the child can't, then the child feels ashamed, and you feel like a failure as a parent. That's bad, so there's an enormous need for this book, I think, and that's why I wrote it. I wanted to prevent some of the problems I see in adults because it's so hard to change adults who are ashamed," Aron says.

One group of proud adults is the congregation at the Noe Valley Ministry, the Presbyterian church at 1021 Sanchez Street. They have created a labyrinth on their sanctuary floor, and it's open to the public the second Sunday of each month from 7 to 8 p.m., complete with music, candlelight, and a brief introduction to enhance the experience.

"The Ministry has been part of a renewed interest in the labyrinth as a walking prayer or a tool for walking meditation. The resurgence began with Grace Cathedral. They have a large labyrinth in the narthex at the back of the church," says Keenan Kelsey, the Ministry's pastor.

The Ministry's congregation began exploring the idea of having a labyrinth in April. After drawing labyrinths on the floor with chalk, having visitors display canvas labyrinths for them, and visiting labyrinths in the area, they decided to paint their own.

"We wanted a permanent one, not a canvas one that you take up and down. We chose a classic Cretan labyrinth. It is a

seven-ring design which first appeared on coins from Crete as early as 430 B.C. The same design has appeared in cultures throughout the ages, from the Native Americans in Arizona to Scandinavia, Sumatra, Romania, Wales, and Ireland. The mythologies around the walking design may differ, but the Cretan design seems universal."

The Ministry's labyrinth, located on the floor in the upstairs sanctuary, is cream and burgundy-colored on a gray background. It looks like a maze, but it has only one path that winds around into the center. To leave, you turn around and follow the same path out.

"Basically it's a journey. As a walking meditation it provides a place to transform moods, or change your perspective. It can be walked slowly or swiftly, playfully or solemnly, purposefully or meditatively. The point of a labyrinth walk is to lead a person into a deeper relationship with God or with other people," says Kelsey. "It's a gift to ourselves and a gift to the world. We just want to make this kind of sacred space available to everybody."

This space in the *Voice* isn't sacred, but it's available to you if you have a milestone to share. Warm our hearts in December with news about your charming babies and toddlers (come on parents, we see you pushing strollers around the hood), academic honors, athletic achievements, engagements, weddings, professional awards, book publishing parties, art show openings, literary salons, and any other good personal news worth sharing with your neighbors.

E-mail leads to [thisnthat@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto>thisnthat@noevalleyvoice.com), mail them to the Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114, or leave a phone message at 821-3324. We keenly await your news. □



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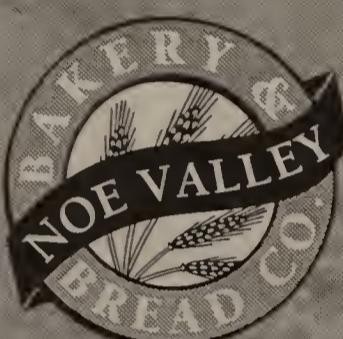
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Two Windows On the World, Viewed from Left to Right

By Olivia Boler

Noe Valley's residents and workers are reputed to be liberal, forward-thinking, and well-informed people, people concerned with issues beyond whether the TV sitcom *Friends* will be on for another season. Most recently, we have been jumping into the fray over our government's threatened actions against the nation of Iraq.

While most of us hold debates with friends and family, there are some who like to shout their opinions from the rooftops. In Downtown Noe Valley, two merchants whose views are on opposite ends of the political spectrum happen to have windows on the same block of 24th Street, and they use those windows without compunction. They are Global Exchange Fair Trade Craft Center and Twin Peaks Properties.

Global Exchange, Your Antiwar Headquarters

In the past few years, Global Exchange Fair Trade Craft Center, located at 4018 24th Street near Noe, has become a de facto Noe Valley center for peace activism. The window displays change at least monthly, but you can be sure to see posters declaring "Our Neighborhood Is a Hate-Free Zone," "Our Grief Is Not a Cry for War," and "10 Things You Can Do to Stop the War in [fill in the blank]."

According to store manager Shell Mae, people who want to protest the Bush administration's saber-rattling need only stop by Global Exchange to pick up the latest peace march information or sample letters to Congress.

"We have a lot of flyers here, and we post a list of current activities," says Mae, 38. "People can come here to talk to us, and we usually refer folks to our main office and our web site."

Mae says the store ran out of posters demanding "No War in Iraq" during the second week of October. However, it still has a good supply of "Top 10 Reasons Why the U.S. Should Not Invade Iraq," a flyer that also can be printed from its web site at www.globalexchange.org, along with a calendar of upcoming lectures, teach-ins, and peace rallies.

According to Mae, Global Exchange has become a kind of safe house for left-leaning activists, and most people who go there are familiar with the organization's credo: "Treat others as you would like to be treated." In Mae's three-and-a-half years as manager, only twice have indi-

viduals come into the store yelling and screaming about its liberal stance.

On the sad and shocking day of Sept. 11, 2001, Global Exchange opened its doors early and invited neighbors to come in and talk. No one bought anything, and Mae made coffee for everyone.

While the store's focus is "fair trade"—selling goods from Third World nations such as Peru, Ecuador, and Afghanistan so that the people who make them receive a fair price for their labor—working for peace is also near the top of the list. Mae feels that most of the store's employees and customers view war as a social justice and human rights issue and they look to Global Exchange to mobilize the anti-war effort.

They also decry racism, and what Mae says she and her Global Exchange colleagues call "Islamicism"—bias against Muslims, or anyone from an Arab country. She compares this attitude to the persecution of the Jews during World War II. "[Targeting Iraq] is the new cold war," she says with a sigh.

As for the threat of a hot war, Mae agrees with the views posted on the Global Exchange web site: The U.S. should not invade Iraq because there is no justification—our country has not been attacked, and there has been no proof of a connection between Iraq and the events of Sept. 11. Iraq does not pose a "clear and present danger"—in fact, war might make the U.S. more vulnerable because of the anti-American sentiment it would generate. A war would most likely cost billions of dollars, which would burden our country's weakened economy. And it would also cost thousands of lives—the lives of soldiers and civilians alike.

Mae says many neighborhood residents have expressed support for Global Exchange's sentiments, but she worries about the silent majority, who may be apathetic toward Bush's use of military force. "They should try to walk in the Iraqi people's shoes," she says. "They should try to think of them as a brother, lover, or friend."

Twin Peaks Properties: The Political Portal of Harry Aleo

A few doors away at 4072 24th Street (near Castro), a sign in the window of Twin Peaks Properties announces the real estate firm's 55th anniversary at that location and an invitation to the residents of "Loony Valley" to offer their congratulations via cell phone.

Yes, it's no secret that Twin Peaks proprietor Harry Aleo, 82, has been an outspoken champion of conservative causes for decades. And it's also no surprise that Aleo agrees with our government's current plans for dealing with Iraq.

On Oct. 7, President Bush gave a speech in Cincinnati meant to rouse Congressional support for a resolution giving him the authority to wage war on Iraq.

should the country's leader, Saddam Hussein, fail to comply with United Nations weapons inspectors. The president claimed that war was a last resort and would only be used if diplomacy did not work. This is a position Aleo supports.

"Nobody, including myself, including anyone in the House of Representatives or the Senate, wants a war," says Aleo. "It's the last thing we want. What we do want is Iraq to abide by the resolutions of the last 10 years to give the U.N. inspectors unfettered access to its stockpile [of weapons]. If [Saddam Hussein] gives us that, there will be no need for war."

A veteran of World War II, in which he served for three years in Europe, Aleo nonetheless says he is opposed to going to war. Rather, he hopes the resolutions will force Hussein to comply and destroy his weapons of mass destruction.

"If [Hussein] wants to save his butt and his country, that's what he has to do. If he doesn't, the U.S. and our allies will take care of it ourselves."

When pressed, Aleo admits that Hussein might rebuff any tough resolution the United States or the United Nations authors, triggering a war, but he is firm in his position that our government cannot stand by and do nothing, especially since he suspects Hussein would give his weapons to terrorists who hate the U.S.

Though he often votes Republican, Aleo does not always agree with the Republican Party line, and he makes his opinions known, not just through his store window, but by writing letters to those in office. For example, he does not like the fact that President Bush is planning to grant amnesty to approximately three million "illegal aliens."

"There are nine million illegals in this country, and they are using up all our welfare money, using up our schools. Even if they are working here, they're illegal! They should not be in this country."

Aleo has dashed off a letter to Congress about this issue. "If something offends me, I'll write a letter."

He sometimes posts copies of letters he has written or received, both from detractors and supporters, in his storefront window. They are displayed against the backdrop of Old Glory and alongside newspaper clippings, political cartoons, and other neighborhood memorabilia that he thinks will interest people. He says his American flag has met with criticism, and has even been equated by some critics with a swastika.

"For the Fourth of July, I bought all these American flags to give away to the other merchants. Do you know how many came over to pick one up?" he asks. "Zero. In West Portal, 90 percent of the shops flew an American flag."

Clearly, Aleo, who was born in San Francisco and raised in Noe Valley but who now resides in West Portal, is disappointed with the lack of patriotism in the neighborhood.

However, he believes there are a number of closet conservatives in our midst. He says many people stop by to comment on his window, and sometimes they tell him they like what they see and agree with his sentiments.

Even Shell Mae of Global Exchange, whom you'd be hard-pressed to call a conservative, is happy that Aleo is outspoken about his political views.

"I think it's great that he's there and able to express himself," she says.

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SHORT TAKES

November in the Park

Friends of Glen Canyon Park will sponsor two free morning walks in Glen Canyon this month. Naturalist Neal Faye will lead a geology walk on Saturday, Nov. 9, from 10 a.m. to noon. Then, on Sunday, Nov. 17, ornithologist David Armstrong will offer an autumn bird walk from 9 to 11 a.m.

Jean Conner, vice president of the Friends, says both Faye and Armstrong are experts in their fields. "We have these large rock outcroppings in the park, which have been folded by geological forces. [Neal Faye] will show the evidence of earthquakes on the rocks, and you can get a general idea of how the canyon was formed." Faye is also an expert on snails, she notes. "He's collected them for the Academy of Sciences on many trips around the world."

As for the bird walk, "we'll be seeing birds that are migrating through in the fall, as well as the birds that winter-over in the park. We usually see close to 20 species of birds on one of our walks. David Armstrong has led several bird walks for us before. Last year he led one of the walks for the Audubon Christmas bird count," says Conner.

Both Faye and Armstrong are volunteering their time. On walk days they'll meet you at the picnic tables behind the park's recreation center. If there's a light rain, the walk is on. If a heavy rain falls, the walk will probably be cancelled. Glen Canyon Park is located at Chenery and Diamond Heights Boulevard. For more information, call 584-8576.

The SFFD Needs You!

The San Francisco Fire Department needs up to 1,000 volunteers to be "victims" in a mass casualty/disaster scenario on Saturday, Nov. 2, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., in Candlestick Park (3-COM Park).

The event is an exercise drill for Fire Department personnel to practice disaster response skills. Volunteers will have a chance to see the SFFD in action and to experience what occurs during the aftermath of a disaster. Refreshments and event mementos will be provided.

To volunteer, call the SFFD's disaster drill volunteer hotline at 561-5924.

We're Fit to Knit

A yarn shop called Imagiknit has opened at 18th and Sanchez in the Castro, in response to a revived interest in knitting and other fiber arts. This fall, Imagiknit is offering a host of classes, including *Knitting 101*, *My First Sweater*, *Sock It to Me*, *U-Turn Scarf*, and *Felting*.

"Knitting is extremely popular these days," says Allison Isaacs, co-owner of the store with her friend in fiber, Sara Lucas. "There's such a diverse amount of fibers available that you can just know the basics of knitting and make some fabulous garments or gifts. It's very relaxing, and I think it gives people a chance to stay home and spend time with family and slow down a little bit."

Not sure what felting is, exactly? It's where you create a garment or accessory using "roving." Roving is unspun fiber. You create felt from the roving by using hot water and agitation. "The simplest way to do felting is a kids' project, where you take roving and wrap it around your finger. Then you put that in hot water, agitate it by moving it around, and you can make a finger puppet," explains Isaacs.

Prices for the classes vary because some meet only once, while others meet several times. *Knitting 101*, for example, is a four-week class, offered on Saturday

mornings (Nov. 2 to 23) or Monday evenings (Nov. 25 to Dec. 16); the cost is \$70. You can learn how to knit a hat in two sessions (*Hats 101*) from 7 to 9 p.m. on Nov. 5 and 12, for a cost of \$35. The *Felting* workshop takes place on Tuesday, Nov. 19, from 7 to 9 p.m., and costs \$20.

Classes are held in Imagiknit's spacious store, which is stocked with yarns, knitting supplies, books, patterns, hand-knit garments, accessories, and gifts. A big couch and well-placed antiques give the establishment a homey feel.

The store is located at 3897 18th Street. For further details on the knitting classes, call 621-6642 or visit www.imagiknit.com.

A Time for Clay and Glass

We use them day in, day out. Take them for granted. Forget that they can be works of art. For a reminder of just how extraordinary dishes, platters, bowls, teapots, vases, and other handcrafted items can be, why not go to the San Francisco Clay and Glass Festival?

It's being held Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 9 and 10, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Fort Mason Center's Herbst Pavilion.

More than 100 members of the Association of Clay and Glass Artists (ACGA) will be exhibiting and selling their wares. One of them, Bonita Cohn, has been working in the Noe Street studio she shares with several other artists since 1976. (It's just over the hill near 19th Street.) She's been an exhibiting member of ACGA since 1979. "I make functional objects, such as tea bowls and bottles, in a stoneware clay, thrown on the wheel," says Cohn. "I usually fire my work in a gas kiln. Since 1985, I have taken part in numerous wood firings. I think of pots as stones in a river, heavily impacted on one side and quiet on the other."

The festival is a chance to see ceramics of almost every style and surface. It is also, says Cohn, "a chance to own a piece and shake the hand that made it!"

Fort Mason Center is at Marina Boulevard and Buchanan Street. Admission is \$7 adults, \$5 seniors. Children under 12 are free. A \$1 discount coupon is available at www.acga.net. For further information, call 507-9909.

Calling All Celts

If you're of Celtic heritage, or simply interested in Celtic culture, you might want to attend "Where the Three Streams Meet: A Celtic Day of Spirituality and Prayer." It will take place at St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond Street at Elizabeth Street, on Saturday, Nov. 9.

The day of reflection and discussion will begin at noon and conclude with a 5 p.m. mass. It will be facilitated by St. Philip's pastor, Father Michael Healy, a native of County Cork, Ireland.

"Celtic spirituality is based on nature, the environment, and the animals," says Katy O'Shea, who is helping to organize the event. "And one thing about Ireland is that when St. Patrick came, he incorporated the local customs into Christianity so that there was never any bloodshed about converting people in Ireland because they were able to retain their own practices as they went into Christianity."

Did you know that the Celts invented personal confession, that Ireland's physical isolation made it difficult for Rome to impose outside authority, and that women had a strong voice in church government due to their more equal footing in ancient Irish law? To reserve a spot so you can learn more, call Katy O'Shea at 648-6275, Colleen Driscoll at 664-7259, or Terry Kelleher at 650-344-9262.

The requested offering is \$15, and everyone is welcome. A light lunch will be served.



This month's Short Takes were written by Laura McHale Holland.



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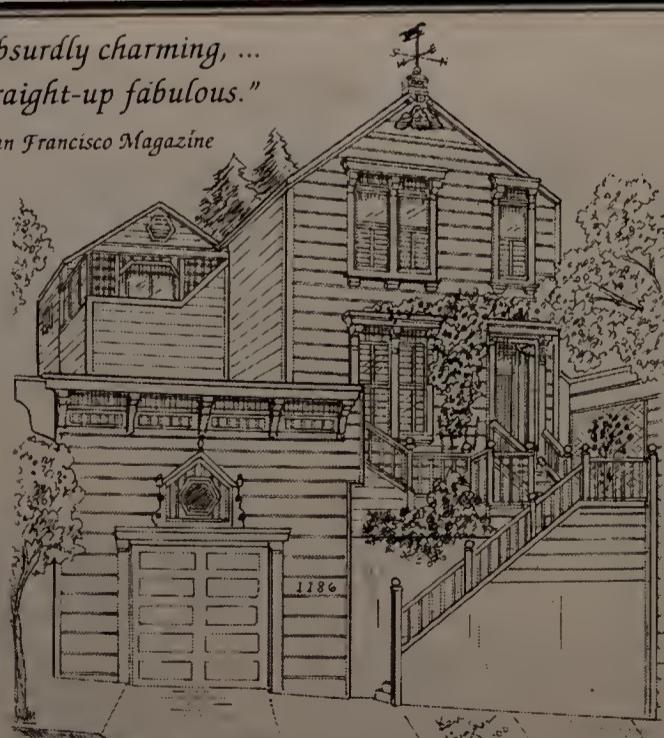
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Photo by Pamela Gerard

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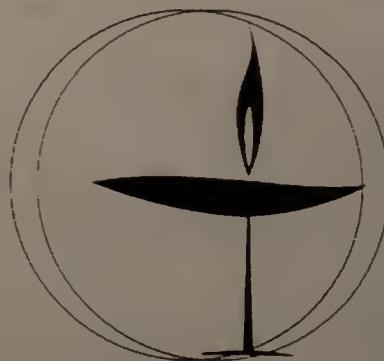
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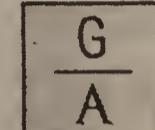


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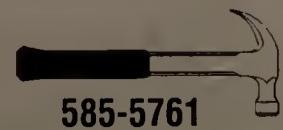
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NOVEMBER 2002

OCT. 29: A DEBATE on Prop. N features Supervisor Gavin Newsom and Pablo Steward of the Haight Ashbury Free Clinic (pro), and Susan Giraudo of Home Away from Homelessness and Karen Gruneisen of St. Anthony's Foundation (con). 4–5:30 pm. USF, McLaren Center, 2130 Fulton St. 422-2697.

OCT. 29: FILMS for preschoolers age 3 to 5 include *Alligator All Around*, *Harry the Dirty Dog*, and *Little Girl and the Gunny Wolf*. 10 and 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

OCT. 30: The downtown branch of the San Francisco Senior Center holds an OPEN HOUSE from 10 am to 3 pm. 481 O'Farrell St. 771-7950.

OCT. 30: Learn about charms, candle magic, and how herbs and oils can be used in spell work in a HERBAL CHARMS workshop led by Inanna Hazel. 7–9 pm. Scarlet Sage Herb Company, 1173 Valencia St. 821-0997.

OCT. 31: Hoffman Avenue between 22nd and 25th streets will be transformed into "HOFFMAN THE HAUNTED STREET," from 6 to 8 pm. 282-4562.

OCT. 31: City Guides leads a GHOST WALK at City Hall. 6:30 pm. Enter through Goodlett Place doors and meet in the South Light Court. 557-4266.

OCT. 31: A HALLOWEEN PARTY at Club Galia features a costume contest. 8 pm. 2565 Mission St. 970-9777.

OCT. 31–NOV. 2: A Buddhist ARTS FESTIVAL includes film, music, dance, lectures, and rituals. 8 pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St. 282-2018.

OCT. 31–NOV. 10: *The QUILT Project: Pieces of Me* is a multi-disciplinary performance based on African-American cultural aesthetics. Thurs.–Sun. 8 pm. ODC Theater, 3153 17th St. 863-9834.

NOV. 1–12: BONITA COHN exhibits photographs and stoneware in "Bon Bon Goes to Obon." 10 am–8 pm. Ruby's Clay Studio, 552A Noe St. 437-1642.

NOV. 1–26: A FIBER SHOW by the Loom and Shuttle Weaving Guild features a reception and textile fair on Nov. 2, from 10:30 am to 3 pm. Mon.–Sat., 9 am–6 pm.; Sun. 1–5 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-3448.

NOV. 1–29: LIVING T'AI CHI of Noe Valley offers classes in meditation and Qigong, taught by Chris Sequeira. Mon. and Tues., 6–7:30 pm, at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., and Wed. and Fri., 10:15 am–noon, at Douglass Park. 773-8185 or 650-756-6857.

NOV. 1–DEC. 31: "NOCTURNES: Fort Mason and Environs" features the night photography of Noe Valley residents Tim Baskerville, Marc Babstein, Carol Henry, and Lance Keimig. Artists' reception Nov. 6, 5:30 pm. Fort Mason, 441-3400.

NOV. 2: The S.F. Fire Department needs 1,000 VOLUNTEER "victims" for a disaster drill. 8 am–1:30 pm. Candlestick Park. 561-5924.

NOV. 2: The San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners (SLUG) plants WINTER VEGETABLES and shows composting and cover-cropping techniques. 10 am–noon. Garden for the Environment, 7th Ave. at Lawton. 561-7752.

NOV. 2: Word for Word performs a BROTHERS GRIMM fairy tale, "Hans, My Hedgehog." 1:30 pm. Glen Park Library, 653 Chenery St. 337-4740.

NOV. 2: TANGO #9 performs authentic Argentine tangos with dancers David and Nancy Mendoza and vocalists Kilo Muñoz and Leon Palad. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

NOV. 2 & 3: "Caminatas Culinarias de la Mision," Encantada Gallery's WALKING TOURS of Mission and Valencia Street restaurants and grocery stores, conclude with lunch. 908 Valencia St. Register at 642-3939.

NOV. 2 & 3: SANTA PAWS will pose for holiday photos with dogs, cats, and other pets, to benefit the SPCA. 11 am–3 pm. 243 Alabama St. 522-7041.



The Bluegrass Intentions brings banjos and fiddles to the Noe Valley Ministry on Nov. 23. Photo by Irene Young

NOV. 2 & 9: LAPSITS for babies, toddlers, and their parents feature songs, stories, and finger plays. 10:30 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

NOV. 2–20: The DAY OF THE DEAD exhibit at the Mission Cultural Center features interactive installations that resemble a traditional Latin American fair. Opening reception Nov. 2, from 7 to 11 pm. 2868 Mission St. 821-1155.

NOV. 2–23: KNITTING 101 introduces the basics of yarnwork in a four-Saturday class, from 9 to 11 am. A Monday class begins Nov. 25, from 7 to 9 pm. ImagiKnit, 3897 18th St. 621-6642.

NOV. 3: LOIS SILVERSTEIN reads from her novel *Daughter*. 4:30 pm. Bird and Beckett Books and Records, 2788 Diamond St. 586-3733.

NOV. 3: The Harmida PIANO TRIO performs works by Mozart, Lou Harrison, and Brahms. 7:30 pm. Music on the Hill, St. Kevin's Church, 704 Cortland Ave. 820-1429.

NOV. 3: MISSY ROBACK celebrates the release of her debut CD, *Just Like Breathing*, with a show at the Make-Out Room. 9 pm. 3225 22nd St. 647-2888.

NOV. 4: The STONESTOWN STROLLERS hold a one-hour fitness walk for new mothers. 8:30–10 am. Meet at the Nordstrom Espresso Bar in Stonestown Galleria, 19th Avenue at Winston Drive. 759-2600.

NOV. 5: Don't forget to VOTE! Polls close at 8 pm.

NOV. 5 & 12: Preschool STORY TIME, a read-aloud program for children 3 to 5, begins at 10 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

NOV. 5 & 12: Learn how to KNIT a hat in two sessions at ImagiKnit. 7–9 pm. 3897 18th St. 621-6642.

NOV. 6: VIDEOS for preschoolers include *Danny and the Dinosaur*, *Mole and the Bulldozer*, *The Three Little Pigs*, and *Rosie's Walk*. 10 and 11 am. Mission Library, 300 Bartlett St. 695-5090.

NOV. 7–23: Wes "SCOOP" NISKER describes *The Big Bang*, *the Buddha*, and *the Baby Boom*. Thurs.–Sat., 8 pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St. 826-5750.

NOV. 7–28: FOOD ADDICTS in Recovery Anonymous meets Thursdays at 8:15 pm; on Thanksgiving, Nov. 28, a special two-hour meeting focuses on gratitude. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 970-0318 or 252-1030.

NOV. 7–DEC. 7: PERFORMANCE ARTIST Sara Moore, a former Ringling Brothers clown, performs a one-woman, 20-character show, *Show Ho*. Wed.–Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. Theater Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

NOV. 9: St. Philip's invites the public to a CELTIC day of spirituality and prayer. 11:30 am–5 pm. St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond St. 648-6275.

NOV. 9: The Castro Street shop Beyond the Sea sponsors a HOLISTIC HEALTH FAIR at the Noe Valley Ministry. 1–5 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 285-4614.

NOV. 9: Turkish vocalist SAADET TURKOZ gives a concert with koto player Miya Masaoka and bassist George Cremaschi. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

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J.D. Power and Associates 2002 Full Service Investor Satisfaction Study, June 2002

Edward Jones tied for first in J.D. Power and Associates' first-ever survey of customer satisfaction among full service investors. For more information, see www.jdpower.com.

Newsweek, July 1, 2002

Edward Jones got a favorable mention as a shining example of a firm that does what's right for customers.

Business Week, June 10, 2002

Edward Jones appeared in the prominent business magazine as a firm different from its competitors. The story focuses on Managing Partner John Bachmann's leadership during the past 20 years.

Fortune Magazine, January 2002

Ranks Edward Jones number one among the 100 best companies to work for.

The Wall Street Journal, February 28, 2002

The five year return on the Edward Jones' model portfolio outperformed 14 other major brokerage firms and the S&P 500 stock index included in the Wall Street Journal's most recent stock picking survey.

Motley Fool: A Different Kind of Broker, December 11, 2001

Motley Fool, online investor resource, describes Edward Jones as a brokerage that puts its clients first with a long-term investment philosophy.

The Wall Street Journal, August 8, 2001

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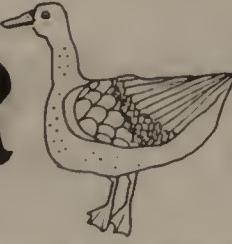
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CALENDAR



NOV. 9 & 10: Noe Valley artists Bonita Cohn, Rae Dunn, and Mark Strand are exhibiting in the S.F. CLAY & GLASS Festival. 10 am–5 pm. Fort Mason's Herbst Pavilion. 507-9909.

NOV. 9: The Friends of GLEN CANYON Park sponsors a geology walk, led by naturalist Neal Faye. Meet at the picnic tables behind the Recreation Center at 10 am. Chenery and Elk (Diamond Heights Boulevard). 584-8576.

NOV. 10: The Greenbelt Alliance conducts a walk to the SEVEN HILLS of San Francisco: Corona Heights, Tank Hill, Twin Peaks, Mt. Davidson, Glen Canyon, McLaren Park, and Bayview Hill. 10 am–5 pm. Call 255-3233 for info.

NOV. 10: "MAZE," the Media Alliance zine expo and book arts fair, features panel discussions and readings at Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St., and exhibitors to buy, sell, and trade at Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia St. 11 am–5 pm. 546-6334, ext. 310.

NOV. 10: IMAGIKNIT holds a class in finishing techniques for knitted sweaters. 2–5 pm. 3897 18th St. 621-6642.

NOV. 10: POFT Jane Rice and short-story writer Joel Rice read from their work. 4:30 pm. Bird and Beckett Books, 2788 Diamond St. 586-3733.

NOV. 11: The ODD MONDAYS series at the Noe Valley Ministry features two author members of the senior center: Edith Hartnett reading from her new historical novel *The Color of Wine: The Story of Mary Magdalene*, and Tom Sears reading his essay on the spirituality of economics. 7 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

NOV. 12: John Scharffenberger discusses "Tasting CHOCOLATE in a Cultural Context." 7–8:30 pm. The Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way. 554-9600.

NOV. 13: Marlene Aron gives a slide lecture on the life and art of VINCENT VAN GOGH. 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

NOV. 14: St. Luke's Auxiliary's FUNDRAISER "Autumn Magic" features live and silent auctions, a fashion show, and a luncheon. 10:30 am–2 pm. Palace Hotel. Call 641-6538 for reservations.

NOV. 14: Judy Aizuss discusses "Emotional Healing with FLOWER Essences." 7–9 pm. Scarlet Sage Herb Company, 1173 Valencia St. 821-0997.

NOV. 14: Castro Area Planning & Action invites the neighborhood to a PARKING forum. 7–9 pm. Castro Meeting Room, 501 Castro St. 864-3869.

NOV. 14: "Spoken Words," a benefit for Jamestown Community Center's youth program, features poetry and prose. 7–10 pm. Cafe Que Tal, 1005 Guerrero St. 647-4709.

NOV. 15: The Borromeo String Quartet performs a CONCERT with baritone Christopher Nomura. 6 pm. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

NOV. 15: The FESTIVAL OF THE HARPS begins at 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

NOV. 16: *Voice* contributor Laura McHale Holland leads a STORYTELLING workshop for parents, "Making a Story Come Alive." 2–5 pm. Natural Resources, 1307 Castro St. 550-2611.



"Nocturnes: Fort Mason and Environs" is a three-month exhibition exploring night photography. Photo by Tim Baskerville

NOV. 16: Pianist TERRY RILEY performs new compositions and improvisations with his ensemble, the Allstars. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

NOV. 17: The S.F. BICYCLE Coalition leads a ride around Lake Merced. 11 am–3 pm. Meet at the Panhandle tennis courts, Clayton at Fell. 431-BIKE.

NOV. 17: Ornithologist David Armstrong leads an AUTUMN BIRD WALK in Glen Canyon, sponsored by Friends of Glen Canyon Park. Meet at the picnic tables behind the Recreation Center at 9 am. Chenery and Elk. 584-8576.

NOV. 18: The GRAY PANTHERS sponsors a public discussion on the results of the November election. 1–3 pm. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1187 Franklin St. 552-8800.

NOV. 19: FILMS for preschoolers 3 to 5 will be shown at 10 and 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

NOV. 19: Sara Lucas and Allison Isaacs teach a class in FELTING 7–9 pm. Imagiknit, 3897 18th St. 621-6642

NOV. 20: The authors of *Play Around the Bay: A Guide to Bay Area Outings for Parents of Young Children* will do a BOOK SIGNING and talk at 11 am at Cover to Cover Booksellers, 3812 24th Street. 282-8080.

NOV. 20: A HERBAL HOLIDAY gift-making workshop includes instruction on making edible and personal care items. 7–9 pm. Scarlet Sage Herb Company, 1173 Valencia St. 821-0997.

NOV. 20: The Noe Valley DEMOCRATIC CLUB's post-election wrap-up features Tim Redmond of the *Bay Guardian* and researcher David Binder 7:30–9 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 285-6043.

NOV. 21: Princess Moxie performs a "rousing and silly" PUPPET SHOW for all ages. 12:30 pm. Mission Library, 300 Bartlett St. 695-5090.

NOV. 21: Apply for VOLUNTEER orientation at St. Luke's. 3–5 pm. 3555 Cesar Chavez St. 641-6465.

NOV. 21: William Benemann discusses his book *A Year of Mud and Gold: San Francisco in Letters and Diaries, 1849–1850*, at the San Francisco HISTORY Association's monthly meeting. 7 pm. Mission Dolores School Auditorium, 16th and Church. 750-9986.

NOV. 21 & 23: Mandy Aftel discusses and signs *Essence and Alchemy: A Book of Perfume*, Nov. 21, 7 to 9 pm, and leads a workshop Nov. 23, 10 am to 1 pm. Strybing Arboretum, Golden Gate Park. 661-1316, ext. 354.

That Pesky Calendar Deadline

The next edition of the *Voice*—the December-January issue—will be distributed on or before Dec. 1. If you'd like to publicize an event in the calendar, please let us know by Nov. 15. Our address is *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Or you may send e-mail to cal@noe-valleyvoice.com.

NOV. 23: The WRITING SALON's End-of-Fall-Session reading and potluck runs from 6 to 10 pm. 673 Moultrie St. RSVP to 642-9793

NOV. 23: The BLUEGRASS Intentions plays traditional yet innovative mountain music. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

NOV. 24: Poet Walker Brents hosts an appreciation of William Butler YEATS, with open mike at 4:30 pm. Bird and Beckett Books and Records, 2788 Diamond St. 586-3733.

NOV. 24: The Del Sol String Quartet performs with clarinetist Laura Carmichael at the Noe Valley CHAMBER MUSIC concert. 4 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 648-5236

NOV. 27: The BOOK GROUPIES book club for grades 6–8 discusses Mildred Taylor's *The Land*. 4 pm. Bernal Heights Library, 500 Corland Ave. 695-5160

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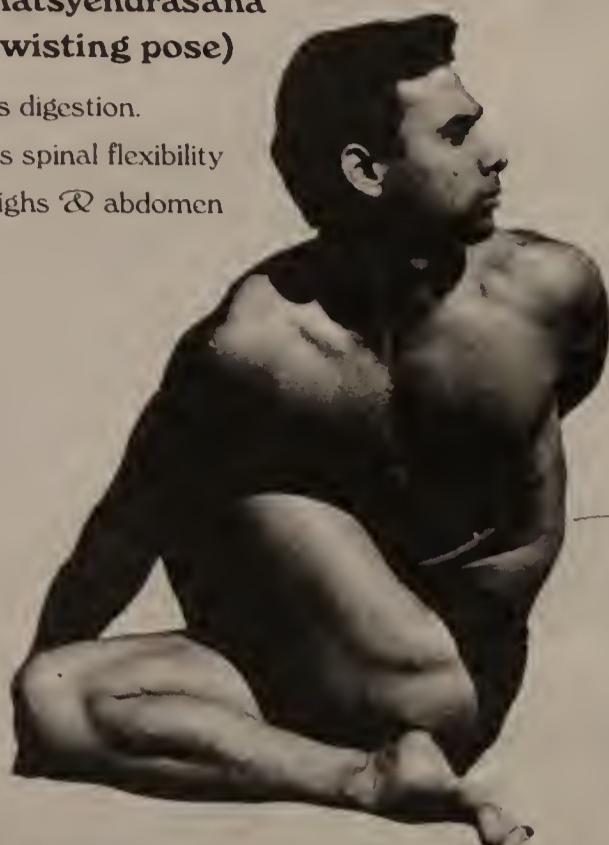
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Filing Our November Reader Reports



Melanie Norall could hardly put away her reading material, though the sights during this Kenyan safari were stunning. Husband Steve is behind the camera.



Jane Looney Williams found the Voice perfect company in paradise in Kaneohe, Hawaii, in September.



When school was out this August, Nina Youkelson of the Noe Valley Nursery School visited Birobidzhan, a part of Siberia once established by the Soviet Union as an all-Jewish republic.



Eddie Feeney-Land, a fifth-grader at Alvarado School, took a 4,500-mile trip with his folks this summer and saw the Continental Divide and Mt. Rushmore.

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STORE TREK

Store Trek is a regular *Voice* column introducing new businesses in Noe Valley. This month's Store Trek features two 24th Street shops: an elegant women's clothing store and a design firm devoted to kitchen and bath remodeling.

YOYA

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When the trendy clothing store Getups departed Noe Valley last spring, after just two years on the commercial strip, it didn't take long for 24th Street mavens to start gabbing about who the next occupant of Star Magic's old spot might be. But the storefront stayed covered in paper for most of the summer. Then in early September, the mask was unveiled and a new fashion boutique named Yoya quietly opened its doors.

"It took about a month to remodel the space," explains owner Phoebe Chen Jacobson. "We signed the lease in July and wanted to open in August, but that was wishful thinking."

Whereas Getups was funky and industrial-chic, Yoya—which means "elegant" in Chinese—is sophisticated and stylish. Upon entering the store, one is greeted by a refreshing, organic scent. "I think it's the seagrass carpeting," says Jacobson, pointing to her woven-mat flooring.

Jacobson worked with designer Kathleen Chan, a silk artist she met at the Fillmore Art Festival, to create Yoya's interior look. The effect of their collaboration is a fusion of East and West. A classic, white column in the center of the store complements a crystal chandelier hanging near the entrance. On the back wall, an inset shelf, framed in dark teak-like wood and gold leaf, features a feminine bust garbed in a rose-colored blouse. The three dressing cubicles are reminiscent of Arabian tents. Sliding Japanese doors conceal the storage area, but the paper screens have been replaced with a sturdy mica.

As for the fashions, Jacobson describes her clothes and accessories as "stylish, practical, and a good value." She also hopes they will appeal to all tastes and ages—teenagers, active moms, and career women. There are dresses by Krizia D. (\$59), blouses by Hot Sauce and Solo-Paris (\$49 to \$55), jeans by Lucent and Maxx Studio (\$34 to \$99), and sweaters from a variety of designers, averaging \$55. The most expensive item in the store is a suede coat by Engine (\$560), although all the other coats in Yoya are around \$180. Jacobson also carries a few Italian unisex shirts, which she thinks could attract male customers.

Her fall inventory includes a large selection of tops, ranging from gauzy, sheer blouses to snuggly, mid-weight sweaters. Many are patterned in florals and stripes, or embellished with lace or beadwork.

Jacobson is proud to carry designer labels from around the globe. "Krizia D. is in South San Francisco, but she's originally from Vietnam," she notes. But she also enjoys promoting local designers and tracking down small new labels that are innovative as well as affordable.

Originally from Taiwan, the 36-year-old Jacobson has lived in the United States for 10 years. Before opening Yoya, she was a user-interface designer and engineer at Microsoft. She's always wanted to have her own shop, she says, and she and her husband, Michael Jacobson, are both enthusiastic about the project.

"We wanted to live here [in Noe Val-



The decor of Phoebe Chen Jacobson's new clothing boutique Yoya is a blend of East and West.
Photos by Beverly Tharp

ley], but we have more room in the Inner Sunset," she says.

To Jacobson, Noe Valley is the perfect location for her store, with its many shops and restaurants, sunny weather, and residents who are committed to shopping locally. One of her goals, as she learns the ropes of retail, is to develop a close relationship with her customers and other 24th Street shopkeepers.

Another goal is to find designers who carry sizes for "real people," in colors and fabrics that are both stylish and comfortable. "It's my number-one issue," Jacobson says. "All boutiques should work toward that."

Yoya is open six days a week, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. On Tuesdays the shop is open by appointment.

In November, there will be a store-sponsored event before Thanksgiving, but it is still in the planning stages. Jacobson encourages those who are curious to stop by and ask for details.

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The one area of commerce that may not have seen an economic slowdown in Noe Valley this year is building renovation, both residential and commercial. For Design Solutions, a full-service design firm that moved into the neighborhood in September, this is welcome news.

Design Solutions—located at 24th and Douglass, in the space recently vacated by the metaphysical arts store Array of Light—specializes in remodels of kitchens and baths, as well as home offices, closet systems, and entertainment centers. According to owner Joseph Pugliese, the firm can be as involved in the process as the client wishes.

"If homeowners already have their own plans, we can manage the construction for them," he says. "Or we can sell them cabinetry or lighting. That's easier for us, of course. But we are licensed to design and implement plans from start to finish."

Pugliese himself is a certified interior designer. Design Solutions has four employees, including architect Jeff Chusid, and has been in operation since 1986. Their previous location was at 1925 Hayes Street. Pugliese chose to move the firm to Noe Valley when Array of Light's space opened up, because he lives only four blocks away.

In fact, the 51-year old Pugliese will soon move into a new home at 815 Alvarado Street, which he designed and built himself. He says it has taken two years to complete the three-bedroom, 3-1/2-bath house. The unique thing about it is that the 3,500-square-foot, Arts & Crafts-style home will also be a showroom that customers can browse through.

Pugliese describes the house as "a project of love" and enjoys flipping through photographs showing off its features. It has warm wood tones and natural materials, such as bamboo. The home also has many of the same hardwood floors, cabinetry, and lighting fixtures that are on display in the store.

"We don't build museums," Pugliese says. "We build environments for people to live in. Some designers build a space that does not fit the people who are going to live in it. We try to bring out what's inside of people."

As for the shop on 24th Street, which



Dylan Arrants, Joe Pugliese, and Rick Kazyak (left to right) specialize in kitchen, bath, and office remodeling at Design Solutions.

opened on Labor Day weekend, it also functions as a showroom, and has a kitchen and a bathroom to explore. "People can touch the granite counters and feel the carpet. They can try the tracklights and see what we have available," says Pugliese.

Pugliese declines to give a price range for his firm's services, saying it all depends on the individual and his or her budget. But he says his typical client is someone who has bought or perhaps refinanced a home, and who wants to remodel a part of their house such as the kitchen or bathroom. Because Pugliese lives in Noe Valley, he knows the neighborhood and its various architectural styles.

The shop's hours are flexible, but someone is usually there during weekdays. Pugliese also can arrange to meet with clients by appointment, and in the evenings and on weekends.

"Someone is always around, working on something here," he says with a smile. "I've always been designing. It's my life."



This month's Store Trek was written by Olivia Boler.

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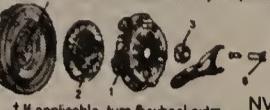
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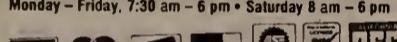
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Walk this Way. The late afternoon sun silhouettes a solitary stroller crossing Valley Street.

Photo by Najib Joe Hakim



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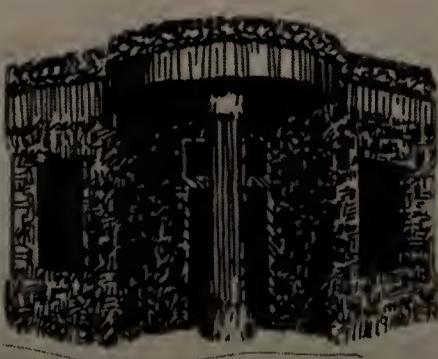
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Reminiscences
by Florence Holub

A Mother for Peace

Voice writer emeritus Florence Holub wrote this column almost 12 years ago (for our February 1991 issue), a few weeks after President George Bush had launched the Gulf War. Last month, Florence, now 84, once again found herself making peace signs and marching in a national protest, this time against a new mobilization for war by our current president, George W. Bush.

My mother was carrying me during World War I, and I was born with a faint brown birthmark on my neck resembling the map of the United States—and I love this country. But I remember the horrors of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, especially Vietnam, for it was in the 1960s that San Franciscans began to speak out in unison against war.

The first peace march began with only about 50 young people, and increased over the years to hundreds and then thousands of nonviolent protesters. One year, Kezar Stadium in Golden Gate Park was completely filled to hear Coretta Scott King, on the same day that her husband Martin Luther King Jr. spoke to an immense gathering in Washington, D.C. When we honor his

birthday, we also honor the cause he led for justice and nonviolence.

I fondly remember the "Summer of Love," and all of those beautiful young "flower children," with their long hair, peace buttons, beads, colorful clothing, and sandals or bare feet.

One day, our middle-aged neighbor, Ted Kley, who was dressed in a business suit, happened upon a "love-in" at Dolores Park. He was so enchanted by the spectacle—the dancing and the music—that he sat down on the grass and took off his shoes and socks to be a part of it. It was contagious.

My man Leo caught the bug, too. Early one Saturday, he went over to Geary Street to pick up some photography supplies, an errand that should have taken him about an hour. When he failed to arrive home by dinnertime, I got ready to call the police. Then he appeared, smiling from ear to ear. It so

them and those who joined in the protests, the long Vietnam War finally came to an end.

Twenty years later, we are at war, and the peace marchers have begun again. On the morning after the bombing of Iraq [the first American air strikes began Jan. 17, 1991], I put on my hiking boots and arrived at the Federal Building to demonstrate my apprehension, carrying my hastily made sign depicting the peace symbol (as I remembered it) superimposed over our little blue planet Earth. I circled the building, holding my sign high, until a young protest monitor left her post and hurried over to inform me that I had the wrong sign for peace. Instead of three lines pointing downward, I had drawn two, which is the logo for the Mercedes-Benz automobile! I remedied my mis-



Florence Holub's husband Leo took this photograph after she'd corrected her hand-drawn peace sign for the Jan. 19, 1991, march in Dolores Park.

happened that as he was driving through Golden Gate Park, he'd noticed a large, happy gathering in a meadow, and decided to take his camera and check it out. Leo found a joyous assortment of picnickers listening to music by the Grateful Dead. He got pictures of Pigpen and some Hells Angels in a kindly mood, and discovered some old friends who invited him to share their spread of bread, cheese, and wine. A group of young people were dancing and singing "Give Peace a Chance." Thanks to all of

take on the spot, and continued on.

There were 1,000 participants at that rally, chanting and singing antiwar songs. They included people of all ages and races—mothers, Quakers, federal employees, and even one "Pinolean for Peace." (It took me a while to figure that one out: Pinole is a little town north of Richmond.) Participating in this event was personally uplifting, and for me, a positive gesture for peace. *

Riding home in the J-car, we passed Everett Middle School, heard the voices



Florence made this drawing of her son Eric and his girlfriend Lisa in 1967, but the message is still timely.

of children singing, and saw a heart-warming sight: a group of school children standing on the stairs holding handmade signs, with flowers and messages that said, "Peace, No War."

The Saturday march on Jan. 19 began at Dolores Park, with Noe Valley well represented, wouldn't you know! The entire day was nonviolent, and had a festive spirit, like an old-fashioned Fourth of July, with a happy blending of the many diverse segments that make up America the beautiful. There were 100,000 marchers in all—teachers, union workers, musicians, Gray Panthers, Asian-Americans, Latinos, Catholics, Jews, gays, the handicapped in wheelchairs, and babies in strollers.

And there were thousands of banners and signs ("It's Not Who's Right, It's Who's Left," "What If Kuwait's Main Export Was Broccoli," etc.). There was also a bit of derisive chanting: "Send Bush, Send Quayle, Send Neil Bush When He Gets Out of Jail!" The sentiment "We Support the Troops—Bring Them Back Alive" was right on. But the most memorable sign, for me, was Gandhi's statement: "An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind."

We support our fighting men, but we cannot support our leaders' war policy. Sincere negotiation seems like a more civilized undertaking, and in my opinion they should let the mothers in the countries involved do it. We would all start talking about our children—their welfare and their future—and the war would be over.

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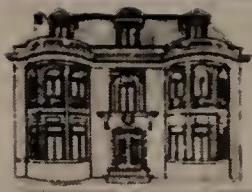
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A Real Fisherman's Wharf

By Janis Cooke Newman

When I think of Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco, I think of souvenir shops filled with poker-playing clam shells and museums displaying wax effigies of Michael Jackson (more lifelike than the original). What I don't think of is actual fishermen, or even actual fish.

So I was more than a little interested when I heard that Pillar Point Harbor, located a short ride down south in Half Moon Bay, is a real wharf with real fishermen (and women)—a place where instead of "Alcatraz Swim Team" T-shirts, one can stock up on freshly-caught albacore and Dungeness crabs.

On a sunny Saturday morning in October, my husband, our 7-year-old son Alex, and I decide to take the 30-minute drive down Highway 1 to Half Moon Bay. It's almost the end of salmon season, and our holy grail is a nice fresh *oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, Latin for king salmon.

We park the car and walk to Johnson's Pier, where the fishing boats dock. Coming the other way we spot two women lugging a cooler that has sprouted several silver-scaled fishtails.

"What have you got there?" asks my husband.

"Kingfish and tuna," says one of the women, stopping to tuck a wayward fin beneath the Styrofoam lid.

On the pier, we check out the chalkboards posted at the end of each dock to see which boats are selling what. *Reelization* has king salmon, *Kandi Dawn's* got albacore, *Irene* is pushing live halibut. We stop first at *Reelization*, where the fisherman on board is listening to a Bach sonata and wearing a T-shirt that reads, "My fish" and "My son's fish." The picture accompanying "My son's fish" is considerably bigger.

"Any salmon?" asks my husband.

"All sold out," the fisherman tells him. "Try *Irene*."

"I like your shirt," my husband says.

"It's not a joke," the fisherman replies. "My son owns the boat."

At *Irene*, Captain Dan Stuckey is coloring in the S on a sign that so far reads "Sal...."

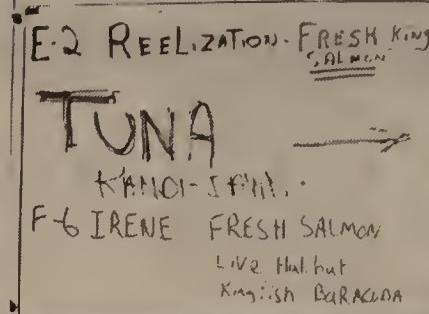
"You want to see a barracuda?" asks Joe Robinson, Dan's helper.

"Yeah!" shouts Alex.

"Take a look in there."

Robinson lifts a trap door in a plastic barrel floating alongside the *Irene*. Inside is a sinister-looking fish with a very long and serious mouth.

"Remember Baron Barracuda?" asks



Pillar Point Harbor, a half-hour away in Half Moon Bay, is a great place to score fresh king salmon and Dungeness crab.

Photos by Ken Newman

my husband. "On Diver Dan?"

Robinson looks at him blankly.

"Must have been before your time," my husband mumbles.

Robinson shows Alex a dead sand shark, who looks as if he could take Baron Barracuda with one fin tied behind his back, and an enormous live halibut. Examining this bottom-feeding species, whose beady eyes migrate after birth to the top of its flat head, I conclude that the halibut wins for goofiest-looking seafood.

Examining this bottom-feeding species, whose beady eyes migrate after birth to the top of its flat head, I conclude that the halibut wins for goofiest-looking seafood.

"Got any salmon?" my husband asks.

Robinson opens a cooler and pulls out a couple of clear-eyed, sparkling salmon, holding them by the jaws.

"Four dollars a pound," he says.

"That's half what we pay at the market," my husband whispers in my ear, on the off chance the information will motivate Robinson to raise the price.

We choose the smaller of the two fish, which still weighs 11 pounds, and Robinson wrestles it into an ice-filled bag. Before we leave, Alex asks if he can see the barracuda again.

Now that we've scored enough *oncorhynchus tshawytscha* to fillet and freeze for several months, we stroll

along the docks, passing old boats with painted wooden hulls and sleek fiber-glass ships topped with forests of antennae. The air is filled with the brine of saltwater and the tang of old crab traps. We hear the breathy hum of a foghorn and the sinister creak of the mooring lines. Between the boats, pelicans with bills as long as swords splash into the water.

We stop at a boat with a cardboard sign advertising "Rock Crab" and a cooler stuffed with shiny, wine-colored crustaceans.

"Two dollars a pound," says the fisherman, holding up a stubby-clawed crab.

Although we were planning on an appetizer of salmon tartare, two dollars a pound is less than we've ever paid for crab.

"We'll take two," says my husband.

Back up at the harbormaster's office, we stop to ask when the boats will be selling Dungeness.

"The season starts on November 15," the harbormaster tells us. "So a couple of days after that."

"What do they get for Dungeness?" asks my husband.

"About four-fifty a pound at first," says the harbormaster. "But after a few weeks, they usually drop it to three-fifty."

"Three-fifty a pound?" my husband says. "That's cheaper than in Chinatown."

"Plus, you get to drive through Devil's Slide," says the harbormaster. "What more could you ask for?" □



A recent trip to the wharf at Pillar Point yielded rock crab going for \$2 a pound.



Joe Robinson poses with his barracuda guest aboard the fishing boat Irene.

Getting Your Catch of the Day at Pillar Point Harbor

Directions: From Noe Valley, Pillar Point Harbor is about a 30-minute drive—not much longer than it takes to get to Chinatown. Take Highway 1 to the northern end of Half Moon Bay. Turn right on Capistrano and make the first left into Pillar Point Harbor.

What They're Selling When: From Nov. 15 through most of the winter, the boats will be selling live Dungeness crab. If the moratorium on rockfish lifts, expect to see rock cod after Jan. 1. Salmon season starts in May and continues until the middle of October. If the waters are warm, you'll see tuna. To find out what's being sold each day, call the harbor hotline at 650-726-8724, or the harbormaster at 650-726-5727.

Other Activities: Pillar Point Harbor is home to two companies that will take you out on the high seas to catch your own fish. Captain John's, 650-726-2913, and Huck Finn Sportfishing Center, 650-726-7133. Captain John's also runs trips to the Farallon Islands, while Huck Finn's offers whale-watching trips in season (December through April).

Pillar Point Harbor has three restaurants specializing in, not surprisingly, seafood. Ketch Joanne is the one most recommended by locals.

If the fishing boats don't have what you're looking for, you'll probably find it at the Princeton Seafood Company market located at the harbor. They have tanks filled with live fish and crab, as well as fresh fish on ice.

For more information, visit the harbor's web site at www.smharbor.com.

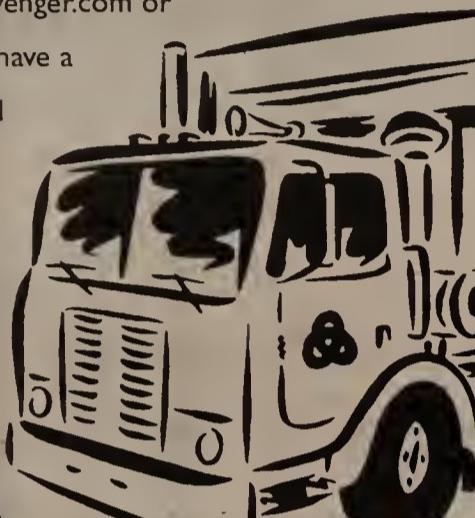
Are We There Yet? is a *Noe Valley Voice* feature about places to go and things to do with your kids. If there's an activity or outing you'd like to see explored, please email Janis Cooke Newman at therewyet@noevalleyvoice.com.

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BOOKS in our BRANCH

This month's new books list, selected by Noe Valley branch librarians Roberta Greifer and Carol Small, features stories by Patricia Highsmith, remote strolls in Hawaii, and an awful day in the life of an awful ogre. To find out what books are available, call 695-5095 or visit the Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library at 451 Jersey Street near Castro. Besides books, the branch offers magazines, videos, DVDs, CDs, and the archives and index to the *Noe Valley Voice*. It also has periodicals such as *USA Today* and the *New York Times*, a collection of books in Spanish, a collection of nonfiction by women, and a special section devoted to college and career resources. Branch hours are Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1 to 9 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, 1 to 6 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Adult Fiction

- ❖ Spoiled expatriated Americans lost in a harsh Eastern Europe of the 1990s are the subject of *Prague*, a love story by Arthur Phillips.
- ❖ *The Sex Life of My Aunt*, by Mavis Cheek, is a light romp into love, life, marriage, and infidelity.
- ❖ Was the young wife of a local doctor killed in a car accident, or was the accident staged as a cover-up for her murder? These are the overriding questions in Lawrence Schiller's *Cape May Court House*.
- ❖ Short stories written between 1938 and 1982 are presented for the first time in *Nothing That Meets the Eye: The Uncollected Stories of Patricia Highsmith*.

Adult Nonfiction

- ❖ In her travel guide *Hawaii Trails*, Kathy Morey clues the reader in on remote walks, strolls, and treks on the Big Island of Hawaii, which are guaranteed to provide tranquility and breathtaking beauty.
- ❖ *Wind Bell: Teachings from the San Francisco Zen Center, 1968-2001*, edited by Michael Wenger, is a collection of pivotal articles from 33 years of the San Francisco Zen Center's magazine *Wind Bell*.
- ❖ In *Poems 4 A.M.*, acclaimed novelist and screenwriter Susan Minot (*Monkeys* and *Stealing Beauty*) reveals yet another dimension to her writing: poetry.
- ❖ *Florence, A Delicate Case*, is David Leavitt's affectionate account of expatriate life in Florence, one of the world's most popular tourist destinations.

Children's Fiction

- ❖ Three colorful bilingual board-books by Rebecca Emberley explore *My Opposites* (long/short, front/back), *My Shapes* (square, circle), and *My Numbers* in Spanish and English. Ages 1 to 3.
- ❖ Glurp! Slurp! Trapped in a deep, sticky mud puddle are a pizza van, a police car, a tow truck, and a fire truck. But a brave band of young animal students saves the day in *Preschool to the Rescue*, by Judy Sierra, illustrated by Will Hillenbrand. Ages 3 to 7.
- ❖ Maira Kalman's *What Pete Ate from A to Z* is a humorous (and potentially educational)

story about a mischievous but endearing dog who devours a variety of food and non-food items, in alphabetical order. Ages 4 to 7.

❖ Eighteen deliciously grotesque poems (featuring such things as gargoyle bile and dragon toe bones) chronicle a macabre sunrise-to-sunset in *Awful Ogre's Awful Day*, by Jack Prelutsky, pictures by Paul O. Zelinsky. Ages 6 to 10.

❖ In *The Star-Bearer: A Creation Myth from Ancient Egypt*, Dianne Hofmeyer tells a poignant tale of family relationships, beautifully illustrated by Jude Daly. Ages 7 to 10.

❖ A clever fourth-grade detective and his ventriloquist assistant, Natalie the Mockingbird, figure out why their classmates are turning into zombies in *The Big Nap: A Chet Gecko Mystery*, by Bruce Hale. Ages 8 to 10.

Noe Valley Library Highlights

The Art of Vincent Van Gogh

❖ Artist and educator Marlene Aron gives a comprehensive slide lecture on the life and work of Dutch artist Vincent Van Gogh (1853-1890), including family photographs and the scenes that inspired his paintings, on Wednesday, Nov. 13, at 7:30 p.m.

Preschool Story Time

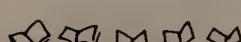
❖ Children ages 3 to 5 can come hear stories read aloud at *preschool story time*, at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays, Nov. 5 and 12.

November Films

❖ Preschoolers 3 to 5 are invited to watch *films* at 10 and 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 19.

Family Lapsits

❖ The library's family *lapsit* offers stories, songs, and finger plays for infants and toddlers at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2 and 9.



Librarians Roberta Greifer and Wayne Donica contributed this month's adult book annotations. The children's book descriptions were written by librarians Carol Small and Barbara Blanchard.

"My theory is that people who don't like mystery stories are anarchists" - Rex Stout

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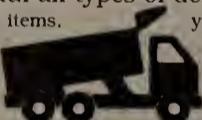
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Dolores Heights Improvement Club
 Contact: Amy Powell, 647-4228
 Mailing Address: 3732 21st St., San Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: Bimonthly board meetings; membership meetings semi-annually. Call for details.

Duncan Newburg Association (DNA)
 Contact: Keith Eickman, 282-8988; Evelyn Martin, 826-6734; Deanna Mooney, 821-4045
 Mailing Address: 560 Duncan St., San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Held periodically. Call for details.

East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club
 Contact: Paul Kantus, 647-3753
 Mailing Address: 492 Douglass St., San Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: First Wednesday of month, Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., 7:30 p.m.

Eureka Valley Promotion Association
 Contact: Lion Barnett, 255-3624
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 14137, San Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: Third Thursday of every month (except December), Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 100 Collingwood St., 7:30 p.m.

Fair Oaks Neighbors
 Contact: Pam Coxson, 648-4977
 Mailing Address: 25 Fair Oaks St., San Francisco, CA 94110
 Meetings: Call for details. The annual Fair Oaks Street Fair is always held the day before Mother's Day.

Friends of Glen Canyon Park
 Contact: Richard Craib, 648-0862
 Mailing Address: 140 Turquoise Way, San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Call for details.



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American Journal of Acupuncture, 1999; 27(1/2):85-94

For appointments and further information, contact

Gretchen M. Oliver, R.N., MSN
 3882 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114

415-970-8220

lightbodyworks@hotmail.com

Friends of Noe Valley
 Contact: Jeannene Przyblyski, 282-4334
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 460953, San Francisco, CA 94146
 Meetings: Second Thursday (call to check)
 Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., 7:30 p.m.

Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association
 Contact: John Barbey, 695-0990
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 192114, San Francisco, CA 94119
 Meetings: Quarterly. Call for details.

Noe Strolls "Playgroup on Wheels"
 Contact: Martine, noestrolls@yahoo.com.
 Monthly Stroll: First Tuesday of month, 1 p.m. To receive stroll locations and notices of other events, e-mail your first name, and your baby's first name and age, to noestrolls@yahoo.com, or log on to the group's web site: www.noestrolls.com.

Noe Valley Democratic Club
 Contact: Dee Andrews, 285-6043
 Mailing Address: 273A 27th St., San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Third Wednesday of month, 7:30 p.m. Call for location.

Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association
 Contact: Robert Roddick, 641-8692
 Mailing Address: Robert T. Roddick, Noe Valley Law Offices, P.O. Box 460574, San Francisco, CA 94114-6003
 Meetings: Last Wednesday (next is Aug. 28), Bank of America, 24th & Castro, 9 a.m.

Outer Noe Valley Merchants
 Contact: Jim Appenrodt, 641-1500
 Mailing Address: 294 29th St., San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Call for details.

Southwest Mission Neighborhood Association
 Contact: Lori Oshiro, Secretary
 E-mail: lodoosh@pacbell.net
 SWMNA web site: www.lodoosh.com
 Mailing Address: 1345 Guerrero St., San Francisco, CA 94110
 Meetings: Second Thursday of month, Salvation Army, 3550 Cesar Chavez St., 7 p.m. (Membership includes residents who live between Mission and Fair Oaks and Cesar Chavez and 24th streets.)

Upper Noe Neighbors
 Contact: Vicki Rosen, 285-0473
 Mailing Address: 169 Valley St., San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Generally last Thursday of month (call to confirm). Upper Noe Rec Center, Day & Sanchez, 7:30 p.m.

Rated ★★★ Michael Bauer, San Francisco Chronicle

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Sat. Nov. 2: TANGO #9

With special guest singers and dancers



Sat. Nov. 9: SAADET TURKOZ

Vocalist from Turkey
 with Miya Masaoka on koto and
 George Cremaschi on bass

Fri. Nov. 15: THE FESTIVAL OF HARPS

SF Klezmer Experience

Sat. Nov. 16: TERRY RILEY & the ALLSTARS

Sat. Nov. 23: THE BLUEGRASS INTENTIONS

Innovative yet traditional bluegrass

Sat. Nov. 30: THE SF KLEZMER EXPERIENCE

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 Hey Klezmeh! Festival

Seniors over 65 and children under 12 \$2 off advance ticket price at the door only.
 Advance tickets available at Streetlight Records, 3979 24th Street
 A Project of Noe Valley Ministry Presbyterian Church

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Need Help Getting Around? I'll drive you. Visit museums, attend lectures, community events. The ocean! Golden Gate Park! Will take you grocery shopping, doctor's appointments, errands throughout San Francisco. Compassionate, friendly, responsible, mature adult. Professional artist, university lecturer. Excellent references. \$20 per hour, two-hour minimum. Marlene, 415-515-9248.

Irish Country Residence. Four-bedroom. In Wicklow Mountains. Beautiful setting overlooking Blessington Lakes. Completely furnished. Fully equipped, with linens. Close to village, golf, fishing, etc. Dublin, 20 miles. Available Dec. 7, 2002, to Jan. 4, 2003. For more details contact *tommac@indigo.ie* or call 011-353-45-867459.

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Microwave Oven. Brand new, stainless steel interior, heavy-duty. Ideal for restaurants, sandwich shops, etc. \$100. 621-7967.

Garage Space for Rent. Sanchez/Jersey. \$175 per month. 648-8614.

Liz's Unique Bed and Breakfast. Old world charm at affordable rates. Guests will awaken to the fragrance of homemade delicacies and fresh ground coffee. Call Liz, a gracious and knowledgeable hostess. 415-648-2515.

Thanksgiving Celebration and Potluck. This is a day for all of us to come and give thanks together. The day will include a service and a vegetarian lunch. Please bring a dish to share, with no meat, fish, or eggs. Thursday, Nov. 28, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. By donation. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Beautiful, Private Garden Flat in Noe Valley, two weeks to three months. Self-contained: all amenities, including fireplace, piano, full kitchen, washer, and dryer. Looks onto garden. Quiet home, owner-occupied. Ideal for academics. One-bedroom, sofa bed in living room. Great location. \$2,600 per month or \$850 weekly. Please call 415-821-4872. Web site: www.sanfrancisco-victorian.com.

Garden Swan. Small garden care. Fine gardening in San Francisco. Gardens to suit your unique personal style. Design and maintenance. 415-552-8218.

Peaceful Kingdom Petsitting. Quality care for your animal friends. Our commitment to service and gentle, loving care is legendary. Pet medications are our specialty. Please call JoAnn, 415-920-1973.

Remodeling? Fully furnished three-bedroom, two-bath Victorian home available for rent December 2002 through August 2003. Near 23rd and Vicksburg. 824-6424.

Seagrass Hideaway. Beautiful, stylish, and spacious short-term rental apartment in the Noe Valley/Castro area. Newly renovated, views, garden, hot tub, fitness equipment, gourmet kitchen, cable TV, DVD, VCR, stereo, easy street parking, and half block to Muni. 415-824-0704; seagrashideaway.com.

Buddhist Feng Shui Landscaping. Specializing in koi ponds, waterfalls, and stone masonry; a Zen approach to landscaping. Marc Fortin Landscaping. C.S.L.B. #805494. 415-515-5295.

Give Artful Attention to the stuff of your life. Small groups meet once a month. No art skills needed. Choose from weekday morning, weekday evening, and weekend morning group options. Call 415-821-3456 for details. Sue Lebeck, M.A., Expressive Arts Therapist.

Pranayama and Meditation Course. This class presents the basics of meditation and breathing practices. Discover for yourself how these practices can improve the quality of your life, raise your standard of health, and bring new clarity and dynamism to your mind. Required readings. Please register five days in advance. Call 415-821-1117. Six Wednesdays, beginning Nov. 6 (no class on Nov. 27), 7:30 to 9 p.m. \$54. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St.

Kauai Vacation Rental. North Shore, three-bedroom, two-bath house, two studios. www.kathysgetaways.com; 415-647-5900.

Hauling/Cleaning. Backyards and gardens, garages also. Kevin. 775-2246.

Russian River Vacation Home in sunny redwoods. Near Duncan Mills/Cazadero. Hot tub, wood stove. Sleeps six plus. Fully equipped, with linens. \$190 per night, \$795 per week. Ellen Weinstein and Fred Weiner, 415-587-7424.

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**NOE VALLEY VOICE
CLASS ADS**

*The deadline is the
15th of the month.*

CLASS ADS

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Furniture Refinishing! Nice work quickly done at reasonable rates, i.e., three-drawer dresser with mirror, \$250 including pickup and delivery. Call One-Eyed Jacks at 621-4390.

Looking for an Experienced (20 Years), reliable housecleaner? Stop your search! One person cleans your home, not teams; I have great clients and references. Are you tired of teams of different people doing low-quality work, if they show up at all? I run a professional, high-quality service. Call Ta-Da Housecleaning, Kathyjean at 415-285-3014.

Hatha Yoga en Español. Esta es una clase tradicional de Hatha Yoga para principiantes. Es una clase con instrucción completa consistente de posturas físicas (asanas), técnicas de respiración (pranayama), y técnicas de relajación profunda que ayudan a mejorar enormemente la salud física, mental y emocional de las personas; al mismo tiempo que calman la mente trayendo paz y armonía. Traer una toalla, ropa suelta y no comer por los menos unas dos horas antes de la clase. Martes, 6 a 7:30 p.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117, ext. 379.

First-Class Detail Cleaning. 14 years in Noe Valley. Excellent references. George, 285-7279.

Dog Walking Service of San Francisco: 731-0120. Established 1995. Bonded and insured!

Too Many Papers? Too Little Time? Call home and office organizer Margo Rila at 415-861-4551. www.margo.bytewright.com. References. Reasonable rates.



Hypnosis and Hypnotherapy. Help with lessening/eliminating habits and addictions, pain, performance anxiety, and general stress and anxiety. Caring, experienced, certified; 18 years experience. Free phone consultation. 24th Street office. Janell Moon, 415-824-2490.

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Housecleaning Specialist. Experienced, dependable, flexible, energetic. Excellent references. CDL. Run errands. Also baby/house/pet sitter. Available seven days a week. I provide all cleaning supplies. Affordable prices and free estimate. Call Denize, 415-452-8939 or 260-5539; degus-mao@hotmail.com.

I'll Drive You grocery shopping, doctor appointments, or other San Francisco errands. Personalized service (can help you shop, carry groceries, wait for you in doctor's office, etc.). Very dependable and friendly. Outstanding references. \$20 per hour (two-hour minimum). Please call Bill, 826-3613.

Deep Relaxation Workshop. Learn to use deep relaxation in creative ways to release physical and mental tension, break patterns of stress, and conserve energy in your daily life. This workshop will include extended deep relaxation, visualization, breathing practices, and a short meditation. Tuesday, Nov. 26, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

Handier Andy. Home repairs, carpentry, stairs, decks, fences, sheetrock, ceramic tile, painting. 415-564-1175.

Bodywork and Movement Analysis. Claudia Singer, C.M.T., C.L.M.A., S.H.P.E. Rehabilitate from injury, improve alignment, release excess tension, improve athletic performance through movement and hands-on work. Call 415-820-1410.

Seeking Host Families for foreign students studying in downtown S.F. A great opportunity for cultural experience. Short- and long-term stay. Arrangements and compensation available for hosts with English as primary language. 415-509-4967.

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Home and Office Cleaning. Excellent references, reasonable prices. For more details, call Russkaya and Alexis at 415-823-0531.

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Paris Apartment. Charming one-bedroom, remodeled, sleeps four. Ninth Arrondissement, minutes from opera, Montmartre. Near fabulous Market Street. See www.frenchapt.freeservers.com. Call 415-282-8912.

House Cleaning. Are you looking for a reliable person to clean your house? You can count on me. Available seven days a week. Good references and own transportation. Phone 650-738-1263 or 650-346-1914, Tara or Maria.

Piano Lessons. Noe Valley-based musician with B.A. and M.M. in music and pedagogy, all ages, kids a specialty! 15 years experience. Carla, 415-648-3651.

HIV and Yoga. This drop-in Hatha Yoga class is for those whose lives have been touched by HIV (including family, friends, and caregivers). Beginners welcome. Bring a towel, loose comfortable clothing, and an empty stomach. Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$9 (\$6 for first class or needing assistance). Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Hauling. We provide the best hauling and cleaning for garages, basements, and backyards. Free estimate; no prices over the phone. Call us now at 415-990-4062.

Housecleaning Available. No time? We do it all. Housecleaning, windows, carpets.... Great references, reliable, professional. Six years experience. Also experienced house sitters. In San Francisco and Peninsula. Call Adriana, 650-367-6298.

Vacation Retreat for Noe Valleyans. Calistoga/St. Helena area. Three bedrooms, two baths, sleeps six (maximum); large decks with views of stream, woods, and meadow. Fireplace with wood supplied; 30 acres, trails, all-year stream, ornamental fish pond. Dogs OK. Three-night weekend, \$500; stay up to four more nights for free. Additional nights after first seven are \$70 per night or four weeks at \$1,750. Discount given to repeat guests. 415-647-3052 (phone and fax).

Home and Office Cleaning. Excellent references. Experienced and reliable. Available seven days a week. Call Alexandra, 415-747-2283. God bless you.

Tree Care. Pruning for fruit, shape, and overall good health of fruit trees, ornamentals, natives, and shrubs. Kevin, 775-2246.

Gentle Yoga for the Mind, Body, and Spirit. Simple stretches, yoga postures, deep relaxation, and breathing techniques to gently stretch and strengthen the body. Beginners welcome. Bring a towel, loose clothing, and empty stomach. Tuesdays, 4:30 to 6 p.m., and Sundays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. \$9 (\$6 for first class and seniors). Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

Office Space Available. Large, sunny, nice room available for full-time use in chiropractic/massage therapy office. Ideally looking for one acupuncturist, homeopath, physical therapist, or other health care provider, but will consider having two practitioners share room. Expansion potential possible as more space is needed. Office is professional, comfortable, and welcoming. Located in a storefront with lots of foot traffic and great visibility. Rent is reasonable. Call 626-7515 for details.

Gourmet Vegetarian Cuisine delivered to your doorstep. Diverse menus, naturally low in fat, cholesterol, and salt. Treat yourself right! Gift certificates available. For a monthly menu call Jane, 826-2133; www.pealcuisine.com.

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PC/Mac/iMac Computer? Need Help? I can... help you clean up your computer, get your computer talking to your printer and modem, set up e-mail and the web, etc. I'm the tech coordinator at an elementary school. Done in your home. 642-8287.

Bhagavad Gita Course. This class studies the ancient Indian spiritual classic *Bhagavad-Gita (Song of God)*, with an emphasis on how to apply the spiritual principles into daily life. Required readings. Please register in advance. Call 415-821-1117. Five Mondays, beginning Nov. 11, 7:30 to 9 p.m. \$45. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St.

Do You Need Housecleaning? We will do it. References. \$15 per hour. Call Jose and Sara, 415-643-1262.

Telecommunications Services. Residential/business. Jacks installed and wiring for phones, computers, intercoms, CATV. Sales, installation, and repair of telephone, voice mail, intercom, security camera, and door-answering systems. Residential remodel, new construction, commercial consultation. Free estimates. Quality work—reasonable rates. All Wired Communications, Lic. #796389. Kent, 401-0214.

Cleaning Services. For houses, apartments, and hotels. Excellent references, professional. For more details, call Sonia, 650-588-2386.

Foot Massage/Reflexology. Relaxing, revitalizing, healing 60-minute session. Quiet location. References. 12 years experience. Trained in Asia. Licensed in San Francisco. Call Stephen Cavaliere at Wisdom Fitness of Noe Valley, 415-505-0409.

Health and Fitness Support Group forming. As we approach our 60s, 70s, and 80s, we want to be able to do most of the things we did when we were younger! Learn how. Ages 40s to 60s ideal for this group. 415-668-8310.

Sheila's House Cleaning. Homes, offices, apartments. Great housekeeping. Good references. Call Sheila, 650-758-4505.

Meditation Workshop. This is a practical workshop that will enable you to begin earnest meditation on your own. A clear understanding of what meditation is, how it works, and how to make it an enjoyable daily experience will be presented. It's suitable for beginners and more experienced students who want to be inspired. Tuesday, Nov. 12, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Charlie the Phone Guy: Residence, business, home office telephone wiring. Fax/modem lines, DSL, Ethernet, too! Dead jacks brought back to life! Separate jacks for roommates. On-time appointments! Free estimates. Noe Valley resident. Call 641-8654. E-mail sfphonoguy@aol.com.

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Superlative Word Processing. Experienced professional, B.A. English, M.S.W. Understandable advice. Business, medical, academic, legal; resumes, manuscripts. Expert editing. Fax machine. Laser printing. Good rates. Call anytime. 824-7736.

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All Things Macintosh: Internet making you crazy? Troubleshooter for hire! Solve mysterious freezes. Improve performance. Software support, tutoring. References. Roslyn, 510-526-1209.

Time for a Change? I believe you already know everything you need to know to live a rich and fulfilling life. Sometimes, though, we lose touch with this knowledge. Psychotherapy can help you reconnect. My areas of interest and experience include life transitions, identity issues, chronic illness, mind/body connections, anxiety/panic, grief, creativity, lesbian/gay issues, depression, early traumas, and crosscultural issues. Sliding scale. Marilyn Jean, L.M.F.T. #35206, Noe Valley, 789-8506.

Get Organized! It's painless! Let me help you create an organized, peaceful environment in your home/office. Susan Bloch, 282-0218.

Drop-In Parent/Baby Yoga. This class is for parents and their pre-crawling babies. It includes gentle stretching, chanting, breathing, deep relaxation, sharing, and discussion. Fridays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St, 415-821-1117.

House Cleaning. I clean homes and apartments. Kitchens, baths, floors, stoves, refrigerators, ovens. Seven days a week. I have references and experience. Please call Maria, 415-841-9875.

Piano Lessons in Noe Valley; Learn piano with patient, supportive teacher. Lessons tailored to individual goals. Music degree and 24 years of teaching experience. Ear training, theory, classical or popular repertoire, MIDI lab. Barbara Bennett, 648-1007.

Handywoman Julie will repair those inside and outside problems you aren't getting around to and wish you could. Get reliable, friendly, and creative help now. Call 550-6792.

Drop-In Prenatal Yoga. Yoga stretches, breathing practices, and deep relaxation can assist you in maintaining an easy, peaceful, and joyful pregnancy and a more relaxed birth. Tuesdays, 7:30 to 9 p.m., and Thursdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St, 415-821-1117.

Flute Lessons. Noe Valley-based flutist with B.A. and M.M. in music and pedagogy, accepting students of all ages and levels. 20 years experience. Carla, 415-648-3651.

House Cleaning. Homes, offices, and apartments. If you are looking for someone honest and responsible to clean your home, call Selva at 650-748-2496 or 415-203-2496.

Living Tai Chi Chuan of Noe Valley. Meditation, Qigong, Tai Chi forms. Friendly, non-competitive. Monday and Tuesday, 6 p.m., Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. Mornings by appointment, 10:15 a.m., Douglass Park, Douglass at 27th. \$5 introduction (Mondays excluded). Chris Sequeira, practicing since 1973. 650-756-6857; 415-773-8185.

Fog City Dog. "A nice walk in the Noe Valley." Bonded. Louis Olds, 824-9374.

Learn Spanish Now with Weekend en Español! Weekdays and weekends, all levels; also Medical Spanish. Or join us for Semana en Español, our unique total immersion program in Oaxaca, Mexico. New! Oaxaca for Non-Spanish Speakers, May 10 through 19! 415-923-0754; info@weekendenespanol.com.

Red's Hauling. Yardwork, basements, miscellaneous. Free estimates! 415-281-0732.

Kirtan/Chanting. Kirtan is chanting of spiritual mantras, sounds, songs, and names in Sanskrit. Kirtan quiets the mind and opens the heart. Please come join us for a joyful experience. Friday, Nov. 8, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. By donation. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St, 415-821-1117.

Architect. New buildings, remodels, additions. Very good record getting city approvals for projects. Innovative design and traditional (Victorian) design. On-site consultation on any project. Reasonable fees. Licensed architect for over 25 years. In Noe Valley since 1981. Call Michael Hager at 415-285-7409.

Lima's Handyman Service. We do: bath, drywall, painting, texture, hauling, backyards, garages. Free estimate. Efficient, reliable, excellent references. Phone 650-270-3934 or 650-219-8822, or e-mail limashandyman@cs.com.

Overwhelmed by Clutter? Relocating? As featured on HGTV, NPR, and in the Chronicle. Shape-Shapes offers expert, simple solutions to what goes where. We will cut through clutter, defrizzle moves, and restore simplicity and peace of mind to busy lives. Homes, offices, packing, and more. Free phone consultation and brochure. 415-550-0658.

Quaint "Victorian Garden" B&B near 26th and Sanchez. Private and ground level. Living room, fireplace, bathroom, bedroom with queen-size bed, office nook, flower-filled patio/garden, laundry facilities, phone, sound system, cable TV, plentiful breakfast items. Apartment is lovely and quiet. Two-night minimum. Reasonably priced. Call 206-0202.

A Whole New Outlook! The GutterSnipes do windows. Free estimates. Senior discounts. 824-9374.

Charming Short-Term Rental. The Dolores Studio — sunny, furnished apartment with separate entrance, private bathroom, kitchenette. Looking onto lovely garden, it's ideal for visiting family, business, romantic weekend. Fabulous Noe Valley location. Reasonable rates. Samantha, 415-285-5677; doloresstudio@yahoo.com.

Beginners Hatha Yoga Course. This class allows for personal attention and in-depth instruction on basic yoga postures. Please bring a towel or mat, refrain from eating for at least two hours before class, and wear loose-fitting, comfortable clothing. Please register five days in advance. Call 415-821-1117. Six Tuesdays, beginning Nov. 5, 7:30 to 9 p.m. \$54. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St.

CLASS ADS

Self-Hypnosis Workshop. Learn techniques to create change and resolve issues in your life. Use self-hypnosis to lose weight, end insomnia, enhance creativity, increase focus, expand relaxation, stop smoking, etc. Nov. 9 and 10, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Noe Valley. \$120. Preregistration required; class size limited. Private sessions and tapes also available. Kerstin Sjoquist, Certified Hypnotherapist. <http://www.consciousnessarts.com> or 415-385-8382

Piano Lessons with patience and humor. All ages, all styles. Former member of Pickle Family Circus and S.F. Mime Troupe. Randy Craig, 415-334-2451.

Housecleaning. Since 1979. Many original customers. Richard, 415-255-0389.

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The next *Noe Valley Voice* will be the December/January issue, distributed in Noe Valley on or before Dec. 1. **THE DEADLINE FOR CLASS ADS IS NOV. 15, 2002.**

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and now for the RUMORS behind the news

'Tis the Season

By Mazook

AROUND THESE HILLS and valleys, Halloween is the major holiday of the year. Everywhere you turn, you see skeletons hanging from poles, black-draped haunted houses, scary orange and black doodads in the windows, and of course, pumpkins, little ones, big ones.

As I'm writing this column in the last week of October, I'm among those parents who are assembling their kids' costumes, then worrying about assembling their own. We are really into this!

If the last couple of years are any indication, every kid in Noe Valley will show up in the parade of masked marauders on 24th Street during the afternoon of the Oct. 31. By 5 p.m., revelers reach the thousands, and Downtown Noe Valley is rockin'.

Treat-laden merchants gleefully welcome the children. Of course, they're hoping the little goblins will return with their parents to do their Christmas shopping. It's called "good will," and it's a valuable item on their balance sheet. But that's what we like about Noe Valley.

By nightfall, the kids have gone home to eat their candy, and every available parking space will be snatched by the big goblins from all nine Bay Area counties, who show up for the really big show over the hill in the Castro.

According to local expert Mardie Vandervort, operator of the One-Stop Party Shop on Church at 28th, you will see many more witches this year than in years past, and they will be parading with the likes of Spider Man, SpongeBob Squarepants, and Anakin Skywalker.

Also, there is a home-on-the-range theme. "This year, we're seeing a lot of kids coming in to get parts to a costume they are making themselves," says Vandervort, "and there are many requests for accessories for cowboys and Indians."

My kids are making their own costumes. One will be a stop sign, the other a chocolate chip cookie. So much for Dracula.



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celebration for the parade of neighbors who appealed the Planning Commission's approval of the demolition of Reilly's Mortuary and construction of a four-story, 13-unit residential development on the corner of 29th and Dolores streets.

Rumors reported in the September issue that the bitter dispute came to a head at the end of August, when the Board of Supervisors failed to overrule the Planning Commission, which had approved plans offered by developer Joe Cassidy. Supervisor Chris Daly had surprised everyone by joining Supervisors Hall, Newsom, and Yee in voting for the project, against the neighbors' appeal. The neighbors' main request was to cut back the size of the fourth floor.

Supervisor Mark Leno, who was spearheading the neighbors' cause, got the supes to rescind that vote and continue the matter until Sept. 17. It was continued again until Sept. 30, when finally the mortuary became a dead issue, so to speak.

"We fought the good fight," said Leno, "and tried to reach a compromise on amending the decision of the Planning Commission, but in the end we came at least one vote short [of the eight] we needed to grant the appeal of the neighbors."

Vicki Rosen, president of the group Upper Noe Neighbors, managed to find one bright spot. "Mark tried everything he could to get the neighbors a decent compromise, and in the end the developer agreed to take four more feet off at each end of the fourth floor, and agreed to keep plans to build 26 parking stalls for the 13 units. However, in this whole process, we lost one of the two 'affordable housing' units that were in the original plans, which is unfortunate."

Rosen said she was surprised by how cutthroat board politics seemed over this issue. I was surprised, too. So here are the rumors about what really happened: The neighbors went into this appeal thinking that all but three of the 11 supervisors would vote in their favor on the appeal. They knew Hall, Newsom, and Yee would side with the developer of the project.

Everyone assumed Supervisor Daly would vote with the neighbors. But this is an election year, and he is big on affordable housing. By the time the final vote was taken on Sept. 30, another supervisor, Gerardo Sandoval, had also switched his vote.

According to several sources, Sandoval, Yee, Daly, and Hall had been on the side of the neighbors against a developer of a four-story, 40-foot, nine-unit residential project out on the corner of 39th Avenue and Noriega in the Sunset. There, too, the neighbors wanted to take



Neighbors are getting impatient about the trash piling up in front of 3953 24th Street, across from Bell Market. May we suggest that the owner at least leave a note of explanation.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

off the fourth floor. Leno opposed that request. Now they've opposed his request.

As you can see, one byproduct of district election of supervisors is the Balkanization of San Francisco.



A PARKING SPACE ODYSSEY: it looks as if Dan's Gas Station might be demolished before Thanksgiving. That means the long-anticipated parking lot planned by the Noe Valley Ministry should be completed by Valentine's Day, 2003.

The Ministry's construction manager, Tim Leistico of Thetacon Services Group, has finally received the official notice from the Planning Commission, which has been posted on the property and mailed out to the nearby residents. This allows for objections to be filed, so let's cross our fingers and hold our breath.

Leistico does not expect any problems with the merchants or the neighbors, since they all met many moons ago and ironed out their disagreements (soundwalls, lighting, mini-park, kiosk, to name a few), before the final plans were submitted to the Planning Commission.

"We started this process with a variance hearing before the Planning Commission Dec. 12, 2001, and filed our application months ago. We've been waiting for the city to process the application," Leistico explained. "But I do want to thank hardworking city planner Dan Sirois down at the Planning Commission for helping us get this far in the process. My job is to make this lot self-supporting, which has been very difficult up to now. The property taxes alone are over \$40,000 a year and have to be paid without any revenue being generated yet. Also, we have had to budget an additional \$300,000 in construction costs to address neighborhood concerns."

I hope next month I can report that the public was noticed and had no objection, permits were issued and that Dan's Gas is history. Leistico anticipates that once he gets the permits, construction of the 29-stall lot should take anywhere from 8 to 10 weeks. Maybe by St. Patrick's Day, Tim?



SHORT SHIRTS: The current mystery in Downtown Noe Valley is the fate of the boarded-up building at 3953 24th Street, across from Bell Market. Trash has been collecting out front, and graffiti artists are signing their autographs. The eyesore would have made a suitable ghost-house backdrop for the Halloween parade.

Attempts to reach the new owner, who lives west of Twin Peaks, have been unsuccessful, so I can't tell you what his plans are. According to records at City

CONTINUED ON PAGE 58

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RUMORS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 57

Hall, he bought the property in May for \$700,000, so I'm betting this won't be a restoration project.

A "For Sale" sign went up on the building at the corner of Castro and 25th streets, now the home of Open Door Yoga. According to real estate agent B.J. Droubi, "The building went on the market in October, and the asking price is \$1,095,000." Droubi added that there is a sale pending, but didn't want to make any other com-

ments. If you want to make a backup offer on the property, hurry and give Droubi a call. If you know the history of that building (before its previous incarnation as the 25th Street Workout), hurry and give the *Voice* a call.

The Krispy Kreme craze hit our neighborhood, and those Noe Valleons who absolutely, positively must have one right now can try either Sun Valley Dairy on Church at 28th or Shufat's Market on 24th at Church. Supplies are limited, so go early and don't tell anyone else.

If you've been missing the art show displays that local architect Ross Levy sponsored in his now vacant offices on the corner of 23rd and Vicksburg, don't despair. Levy has moved his offices to a

much larger space at 3361 Mission Street, near 29th Street.

"We've tripled the space we have for our art shows, and expect to start that program after the first of the year. We were so sorry to have to move out of Noe Valley, but the space became too small over the three years we were there. Our new space is very close by, and we still go to 24th Street for our smoothies."

Tully's is our newest ice cream outlet on 24th Street. They have concocted what they call a "Reese's Espresso Shake" and also a "Reese's Peanut Butter Shake." According to Tully's, the PB Shake is winning the popularity contest. I checked out their Espresso Shake, described as "a caffeinated blend of ice cream, Reese's Peanut Butter cups, espresso beans, and a Ristretto shot, which is a short pour of highly concentrated espresso." All I can say is "whoa!" But caution: it is definitely not a late-night drink.

Common Scents, a 24th Street institution since 1971, got a nice write-up in the *Chronicle* magazine recently. "As Noe Valley accumulates more upscale cafes, boutiques, and sidewalk traffic, Common Scents remains an oasis of calm." I guess the *Chron* folks have never squeezed into the tiny storefront during the Christmas season, when it is filled not only with marvelous odors but with shoulder-to-shoulder people scarfing up stocking stuffers.



THE METER'S TICKING: In the Parking and Traffic Department, by the middle of November every parking meter in Noe Valley will have been uprooted and replaced with one of the new electronic McKay meters, which will allow you to buy time not just with quarters but with dimes and nickels. Also, the new meters will eventually accept prepaid cards.

According to Diana Hammons, DPT spokesperson, the job of replacing all the

meters in San Francisco started last month in Bernal Heights. The installers are working their way west and are due to arrive in Noe Valley by the middle of November.

"The company we contracted with to replace the parking meters presently is doing at least 100 per day and by the time we get to Noe Valley, their capacity should increase to over 200 a day," Hammons promised. She says the 23,000 meters will be installed in the neighborhoods first, and then downtown.

As for new meters being installed on 24th Street west of Castro, Hammons says there has been no further action taken by the DPT on proposals made last year by the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association. "We are not aware of any resolution that was reached between the proponents and the opposition," she says, "and it appears there was no consensus in the community."

And in other car news, it seems more and more blocks are being added to the residential permit parking areas. Area S, with a two-hour time limit from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., goes down Castro Street on both sides from Hill down to 23rd Street, and along 23rd up to Diamond Street. Also, Area Z, with two-hour parking from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., has climbed up Duncan to Sanchez.

Soon we will all need permits to park our cars on the streets. I have no problem with the permits, but there are no places to park. How about giving us permits to double-park?

THAT'S 30 for this month, folks. Don't forget to vote on Nov. 5 for your favorite candidate or two. I'll have the results of the local vote next month, so let's make it look good.

And don't forget to put a flag in your window on Nov. 11 to celebrate the armistice reached at the 11th hour on that day in 1918, which ended "the war to end all wars." I'm hoping for an armistice with Iraq by Thanksgiving. □

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THE LAST PAGE

Ota Benga: The Pygmy at the Fair, St. Louis, 1904

◆ BY JANE CUTLER ◆

THE FOLLOWING is an excerpt from Jane Cutler's award-winning novel *The Song of the Molimo*. As we enter the story, it is the summer of 1904, and 12-year-old Harry Jones has arrived in St. Louis, ready to have the time of his life. The glorious St. Louis World's Fair is in full swing, offering every sort of entertainment and fueling dreams of a new century of limitless progress. Harry thinks his six weeks at the fair will be all fun, but something else is in store for him. From the minute he gets off the train, he is confronted by the cracks in this seemingly utopian world.

The Song of the Molimo, geared for readers ages 10 to 14, explores the relationship between Harry and Ota Benga, an African Pygmy he meets at the fair. (The fictional character is based on a real African man who was put on display for fairgoers.) Ota Benga's musical instrument, the molimo, also plays an important role. The bond between Ota Benga and Harry—one that Harry could never have dreamed of making—turns out to be surprising in many ways; it is a friendship that comes to affirm the ability of people to change, and to change one another.

Swiftly, Harry made his way through empty streets, passing only the milkman with his horse-drawn wagon full of milk and cream and butter and blocks of melting ice.

As planned, the Pygmy was waiting in the grove. He was lounging on the fallen log and watching the busy squirrels. Harry put the bundle of clothing down on the damp ground and unrolled it: shirt, pants, socks, cap, suspenders, and shoes.

Ota Benga got up with a smile. He whipped off his loincloth and stuffed it into the hollow end of the log. Then, interested and clearly amused, he stood still and let Harry dress him.

Ota Benga and Harry quickly walked from the Anthropology Exhibit to the entrance of the Pike, where they waited in line with all the others for the fair to open, and then melted into the crowds of fairgoers strolling along the broad streets of the mile-long gallery of entertainments.

The pitchmen were enthusiastically delivering their spiels.

"How about a ride of the Ferris wheel? Weighs four hundred tons, carries you two hundred sixty feet in the air, makes four revolutions every single hour, has thirty-six streetcar-sized cars, room for sixty people each. See the entire fair from two hundred sixty feet about the ground! See the towers, see the domes, see the steeples! See the seventy-five-foot-high fountains! See the ten thousand flags! See the six million square feet of fairgrounds! Step right up!"

Ota Benga didn't step right up. He stood stock still. Harry pulled his arm, but the Pygmy refused to move. His eyes were wide. His body tense and ready. He watched. He listened.

Just then, a troupe of Japanese acrobats dressed in gold-and-scarlet silks came tumbling by. Down the long street they went, performing somersaults and handstands and walkovers, twisting and turning in midair, nimbly assembling themselves into colorful pyramids and, just as nimbly, jumping down and continuing their separate stunts.

Ota Benga laughed out loud, and, as if he'd forgotten every single thing Harry had told him, as if he had no idea why he shouldn't call attention to himself, he joined the parade, doing his own cartwheels and somersaults and walkovers in a humorous imitation of the gymnasts.



Inspired by the Pygmy, boys appeared from every direction to follow the troupe, skipping and running, performing an occasional cartwheel or handspring, coming between Harry and Ota Benga.

Then, before Harry could go after the Pygmy, he was cut off again! For on the heels of the high-spirited boys came a Scottish band: bagpipers and drummers dressed in traditional kilts. "Men in skirts!" exclaimed people in the crowd.

As if that were not trouble enough, right behind the Scotsmen came another band: a quick-stepping, lively uniformed American marching band playing the "Washington Post March," with instruments, brass buttons, and gold braid shining brightly in the morning sun.

The lively two-step of the march infected everyone and raised even higher the spirits of the happy pleasure seekers.

Only one face in the clapping, toe-tapping crowd wore a worried expression. It was Harry's. Where the devil had Ota Benga gone?

Finally, when the acrobats, the boys, the bagpipers, and the marching band all turned the corner at the end of the Pike, Ota Benga appeared at Harry's side. And, though the Pygmy was grinning from ear to ear, his sharp teeth shining out as bright as day, nobody paid any attention. Far too many other fascinating things were going on.

Ota Benga and Harry moved along the Pike, just two among the hundreds out for a day of pure pleasure at the fair.

But not a single one of the exhibits on the Pike, except the birds and the monkeys, interested Ota Benga.

Ota Benga, always before so curious about every single thing around him, had no use at all for any of the marvels of the Pike.

The day grew hot, then hotter. Harry and Ota Benga trudged unhappily along.

"We ought to start back pretty soon," Harry glumly told the Pygmy.

Ota Benga didn't answer, for just at that moment they heard sweet voices softly singing, somewhere

nearby. The Pygmy stopped to listen, and he held up his hand for Harry to be still.

"Swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home," the voices sang. "Swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home!"

Ota Benga moved carefully, quietly on. Harry followed.

The singers, all Negroes, were shabbily dressed in old-fashioned clothes. They sat on broken-down chairs and stools on the front porch of a ramshackle cabin. One man leaned against the cabin wall next to an old-time spinning wheel. Another plucked the strings of a banjo. Small children, all but naked, played in front of the cabin in the dust.

When the Negroes saw Ota Benga and Harry, they straightened up and, still humming, smiled a welcome. A grizzled, toothless old man struggled to his feet, and leaning heavily on the stout stick that served him for a cane, he called out, "How-de-do?" and beckoned for them to come nearer.

Ota Benga strode forward. Harry followed cautiously, wondering where in the world they were.

As if reading the boy's thoughts, the old man, still leaning on his stick, executed a clownish shuffle, first with one foot and then with the other. Next, he pulled off his hat and crushed it against his chest. He eyed Harry and Ota Benga coyly.

"This be the quarters, massa," he explained, bowing his gray head toward Harry, "and we be—de slaves!"

The word "slaves" froze Ota Benga in his tracks, and an expression of such deep sorrow appeared upon his face that the man, seeing it, could not continue his fawning and foolishness.

Slowly, he straightened his old spine and replaced his hat. "We just play-acting son," he explained. "Part of the fair, don't you know? Called the Old Plantation."

Ota Benga seemed stricken and stood as still as if he had suddenly taken root.

"Slave!" whispered Ota Benga.

"Pretend slaves," said the banjo player, plucking his instrument softly. "We're play-acting slaves, boy. And getting paid cash-money to do it. This here's a World's Fair exhibit."

One of the women spoke up. "You got the white folks up there in the big house, pretending," she explained. "And you got us black folks down here in the quarters, pretending. Exhibit closes, we catch the streetcar and go home, right back to Morgan Street."

"Ain't no real slaves now, honey," another of the women put in. "This here's the year nineteen-ought-four. Slavery, that's long gone."

Ota Benga shook his head and looked straight into all the doubtful and astonished eyes. "Slave," he told them firmly, hitting his chest with his fist. "Slave."

Noe Valley resident Jane Cutler is the author of numerous books for children, including *My Wartime Summers*, *Family Dinner*, *No Dogs Allowed*, *Darcy and Gran Don't Like Babies*, and *The Cello of Mr. O*. She has received several awards, and in 1998 *The Song of the Molimo* was named Best Children's Book of the Year by the Bank Street College of Education. "I hope readers take from the book the same lesson the fictional Harry Jones took home from the fair," says Cutler. "I hope their eyes are opened in a way that helps them look past racial stereotypes. And I hope they experience a song of molimo of their own—an optimistic and beautiful rendering of what it means to be human, both in the world and in the heart."

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